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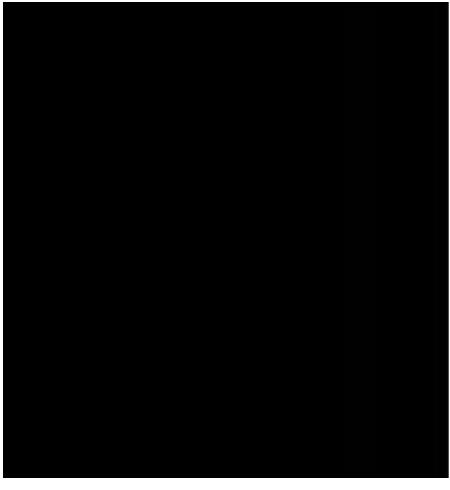

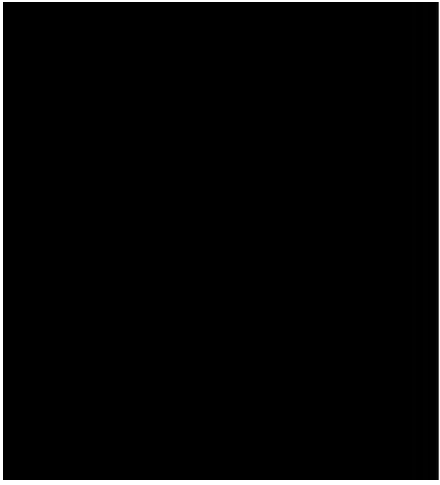

THE

WONDERS

OF

NATURE AND ART

OR,

A CONCISE ACCOUNT

OF

WHATEVER IS MOST CURIOUS AND REMARKABL

IN

THE WORLD;

Whether relating to its Animal, Vegetable, and Miner Productions, or to the Manufactures, Buildings, and Inventions of its Inhabitants,

Compiled from Historical and Geographical Works of establish Celebrity, and illustrated with the Discoveries of modern Travellers

By the Rev. THOMAS SMITH,

Author of the UNIVERSAL ATLAS, SACRED MIRROR, &c. &

"Review these numerous scenes, at once survey
Nature's extended face, then Sceptics say,
In this wide field of wonders, can you find
No art discover'd, and no end design'd?"

VOL. III.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR T. WARNER, NO. 44, PATERNOSTER-ROW; J. HARRIS, CORNER OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD; VERNO AND HOOD, IN THE POULTRY; T. HURST, PATERNOST ROW; AND CROSBY AND CO. STATIONERS-COURT.

1804.

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WONDERS

OF

NATURE AND ART.

CHAP. II.

OF NUBIA, OR SEDUAGE, [illegible]

Situation, Climate, Inf. &c.

HE kingdom of Nubia, or [illegible] the north by Egypt; [illegible] part of Abyssinia; [illegible] own parts of Africa; and [illegible] the desert of Gerham. The [illegible] his country are extremely [illegible] and beast. The men, though [illegible] ly strength, are generally [illegible] is such a mortality among the [illegible] it not for a constant [illegible] metropolis would soon be [illegible] mule, nor ass, will live in the city of [illegible] many miles round it. The [illegible] bullocks, sheep, dogs, and poultry [illegible] must be sent to the sands, at least [illegible] It is difficult to account for this [illegible] Mr. Bruce assures us it is the [illegible] about the metropolis of this country [illegible]

the soil is a fat earth during the first sea
rains. Several of the kings of Sennaar
deavoured to keep lions; but it was alw
impossible to preserve them alive after
season; though they will live, as well
quadrupeds, in the sands, at no great
from the capital.—No species of tree o
lemon will blossom in the vicinage of
and even the cultivation of the rose has
quently attempted without success. In so
however, the soil is very fertile, and prod
herant crops of dora, or millet, which is
cipal food of the common people. In so
the earth is so strongly impregnated v
that a sufficient quantity to serve the inh
extracted from it.

"Nothing," says Mr. Bruce, "is n
sant than the country around Sennaar in t
August and beginning of September. T

h sultry blasts, which are followed by a troop of
ible attendants; epilepsies, apoplexies, violent
rs, obstinate agues, and lingering painful dy-
teries, still more obstinate and mortal."

With regard to the climate of the country round
naar, our author has several curious observations.
e thermometer rises in the shade to a hundred
nineteen degrees; but the degree indicated by
instrument does not at all correspond with the
sations occasioned by it; nor with the colour of
people who live under it. "Nations of blacks,"
s Mr. Bruce, "live within latitude 13 and
degrees; about ten degrees south of them;
rly under the line, all the people are white, as
had an opportunity of observing daily in the
la Sennaar. Cold and hot are terms merely re-
ve, not determined by the latitude, but eleva-
of the place. When therefore we say *hot*,
o other explanation is necessary concerning the
e where we are, in order to give an adequate
of the sensations of that heat upon the body,
the effects of it upon the lungs. The degree
the thermometer conveys this but very imper-
ly; ninety degrees is excessively hot at Loheia
Arabia Felix; and yet the latitude of Loheia is
fifteen degrees; whereas ninety degrees at
naar is only warm as to sense; though Sennaar
latitude thirteen degrees.

"At Sennaar, then, I call it *cold*, when one
y clothed and at rest feels himself in want of
. I call it *cool*, when one fully clothed and at
feels he could bear more covering all over, or
ire, than he has at that time. I call it *temperate*,
n a man so clothed and at rest, feels no such
d, and *can take* moderate exercise, such as
king about a room, without sweating. I call

sweat, sweats excessively, when a man
and the knees feel feeble, as if
call it *extremely hot*, when the str
position to faint comes on, and a
in the temples, as if a small cord
about the head; when the voice
skin dry, and the head seems mor
large and light. This, I apprehen
at hand; but this is rarely or ne
the sun alone without the addition o
wind which pursued us through A
has, no doubt, contributed to the
of every thing that hath the breath o
mometer graduated upon this scale
a figure very different from the com
I am convinced, by experiment, tha
finest muslin wrapt round the body a
occasion, at midday, a great
in the hol

n a room deluged with water, at twelve o'clock, he thermometer at 116, I saw several black la- ourers pulling down a house, working with great igor, without any symptoms of being incom- oded."

ABYSSINIA is situated between the twenty-sixth nd forty-fourth degrees of east longitude, and be- ween the sixth and twentieth degrees of north la- itude; comprehending no less than three hun- red and seventy-eight thousand square miles. It s bounded by Nubia on the north; by Dancala nd the Red Sea on the east; by the kingdoms of Alaba and Gingiro on the south; and by Gorhama n the west.

The extreme heat to which Abyssinia is subject uring six months of the year, is chiefly felt in the lains and valleys, whilst the ridges of mountains, hich are generally of a prodigious height, enjoy delightful coolness; insomuch that father Tellez ssures us, there are some parts of the country here the summers are less sultry than in Portugal. his difference of heat and cold between the high nd low lands is attended with such thunder and ightnings as are terrible both to man and beast, nd often do a great deal of mischief. The rains, hen they descend, do not fall in drops, as in

have large plains at the top, co
and herbage, and affording sprin
cool water; and others are well cu
the access to them is exceeding dif
dous. The mountains of Amhar
height, particularly that called
which is rocky, and every way in
cept by two narrow paths cut into
the top of it produces all that is nece
delight. According to Tellez thi
shaped like a castle; the top of it i
wide, and the bottom about half a d
circumference.—Amongst the mou
jame we are told of a vast hollow
to which stands another so situated
only whispered on the top may be he
distance, and the joint voices of s
speaking at once sound as loud

loyed in this curious performance were sent for from Egypt.

FOSSILS.

THE mountains of Nubia and Abyssinia contain vast treasures of gold in their bowels, as appears by the dust or grains of that metal, which are frequently found as big as a pea; but we do not learn that either gold or silver mines are wrought in those kingdoms, the natives being naturally averse to such hard sort of work, and perhaps thinking it would be folly to take pains to dig up treasures which might tempt the Turks to invade them. Instead of money, therefore, they make use of a kind of fossil salt to purchase from strangers such commodities as their country

ME parts of Nubia afford not only very fine but variety of medicinal plants, roots and , with others that are extremely noxious. of the most remarkable productions of this ind, is a herb somewhat resembling our nettle, h produces a seed of such a poisonous and uctive quality, that a tenth part of a grain is ient to kill a man in a quarter of an hour, and ole grain in an instant. This deadly pro- is made a considerable branch, not only eir trade, but of the royal revenue, it being y the retailer for a hundred ducats an ounce, s which the buyer must pay the like sum king, and take a solemn oath not to make it within his dominions: and for this reason capital crime for any private person to sell thout the king's permission.

e trees of Abyssinia are crowned with a etual verdure, and though the inhabitants have city of fruit, this is said to be rather owing ir negligence, than to any fault of the soil, h is capable of producing as great a plenty ariety of them, as any country in Africa. cultivate the black grape, peach, sugar-cane, pomegranate, som- oranges and citrons, and al kinds of figs; among others, one called en- grows to a prodigious size. During the st part of the year, the banks of the river are ed with lilies, jonquils, and a prodigious er of flowers unknown in Europe.

me writers tell us incredible stories of the s of *Abyssinia*; and particularly Tellez men- *one called* Amagmagda, which has the vir-

tu: of curing broken and shatter
very short time. He likewise m
sazoe, which charms and lays serp
mous creatures to sleep, and whose
tain antidote against the most dead
poisonous animal. The Indian
plentifully in this country, whose
lent, and is supposed by Ludolphu
dam of Moses, in our version tr
drakes, which Rachel is said to
from her rival sister.

There is a small tree or rather s
to the height of three or four feet,
row leaves, and bearing a fruit r
seeds of coriander. These berries
dried in the sun, shrink like East
turn black and hard, and differ lit
taste, but are not so hot, and therefo
able. This shrub grows plentifully

A is famous for a race of horses the most
and docile in the world. These animals
rally about sixteen hands high; and, by
ce, who has given the most accurate ac-
them, they are said to be the breed which
oduced into Nubia at the Saracen con-
nd has been preserved unmixed to
ent time. Our author represents this
h finer animal than the Arabian horse.
figure," says he, "the Nubian horse
ake in point of fleetness is very doubt-
ake being so entirely different from that
abian; but if beautiful symmetry of parts,
e and strength, the most agile, nervous,
tic movements, great endurance of fa-
cility of temper, and seeming attachment
eyond that of any other domestic animal,
nise any thing for a stallion, the Nubian
all comparison the most eligible in the

Nubians are very jealous in keeping up
igree of their horses, which are black or
ut a vast proportion of the former to the
Our author observes, that he never saw
r which we call grey; but he has seen
ght bays, and a few inclining to sorrel.
le horses in Nubia are said to be descended
of the five upon which Mahomet and his
mediate successors fled from Mecca to
on the night of the Hegira. No European,
r, can be expected to pay much regard to
ndary tale, or to believe that the strength
ty of this breed of horses is owing to any

Dongala, wich is situated in
titude, seemed to be the cen
this noble animal. Hence
bounds in which the horse is
fection, are between the tw
sixth degrees of latitude, and
grees of longitude east from
banks of the Euphrates. If t
mate we add the manner of f
horses, we shall, probably, hav
their superiority over all other
fat upon dora, and suffered to e
but the short roots of grass that
the side of the Nile after the
withered by the sun.

Several ancient authors take
kind of wild bulls that are fou
much larger than our tame ones,
upon other animals. Agatharch
nearly two hundred years bef
first who

hunt down all other wild beasts." Diodorus adds, that their eyes shine in the night; that after they have killed other beasts they devour them; and that when they attack herds of cattle they are neither terrified by the herdsmen nor the number of their dogs. Ludolphus, in his history of Ethiopia, affirms, that there are bulls in that country, twice as large as those in Hungary and Russia; and the letters of the Jesuits frequently mention the largeness of the Abyssinian oxen. Father Bernier, in his account of the great mogul's country, tells us, that among several presents which two Ethiopian ambassadors presented to Aurengzebe there was a prodigious large horn of a bull, full of civet, which he measured, and found the basis, or thick end, six inches in diameter.

"From these and other authors it appears," says Sir Hans Sloane in the Philosophical Transactions, "that there is in Ethiopia, and probably in the mid-land parts of Africa, where travellers seldom come, a very large animal of the ox kind, at least twice as big as our bulls, or oxen, with horns proportionably large, but otherwise differing from them in several respects. The accounts the ancients give of this creature are not perhaps without some fabulous additions; and therefore it were to be wished the modern writers who mention it had given us a satisfactory description, which none of them have done; unless we suppose it to be the same with the sukatorio or sukotyro, which Nieuhoff describes to be of the size of a large ox, with a snout like a hog, two long thigh ears, and a thick bushy tail: its eyes are placed *upright* in the head, quite different *from other animals*; and on the side of the

...y of the western
south than about twenty-eight
This animal has straight unbra
six inches long, truncated at t
with black hair; and on the f
cle about two inches high, r
horn. The fore legs are not
the hind ones; but the should
length, which gives a very
height between the fore and h
head resembles that of a stag; th
and elegant, and fringed on the
a short mane: the ears are large
with some bristly-hairs at the e
lour of the whole animal is a dirty
with broad rusty spots.

The giraffe appears to be very
been represented as living onl
trees, being unable from the
length of its fore legs, to feed fi
But Mr. Kerr informs us, that it
ally; at which

ent Camper on a skeleton in the prince of
e's collection, it appears that naturalists
been greatly mistaken in this particular.
its fore legs are longer than its hinder ones
eed true, but the difference is not more
even inches, which in a height of seven feet
much. It may, however, be rendered ap-
ly more considerable by the obliquity of
igh bone with respect to the tibia, when
ared with that of the humerus to the radius.
giraffe has always been celebrated for the
ness of its disposition. Antonius Constan-
in a letter to the prince of Faenza, dated
16th, 1486, gives an account of a giraffe
he saw at Faro. He says, it was so gen-
at it would eat bread, hay, or fruit, out of
and of a child; and that, when led through
treet, it would take whatever food of this
was offered to it by the spectators as it pass-
ng. This character is confirmed by Mr.
on, who relates, that a giraffe which he had
ded, suffered him to approach it, as it lay
the ground, without offering to strike with
ns, or showing any inclination to revenge
: he even stroked it over its eyes several
, when it only closed them, without any
of resentment. Its throat was afterwards
r the sake of its skin; and when in the
s of death, it struck the ground violently
its feet, which seem to be its principal
s of defence.

Vosmaer observes, that both the male and
e giraffe are furnished with horns, which,
their size and form, seem intended merely
ornament: they appear to be excrescences
os frontis, and therefore are probably not

deciduous.—The notion of some write
giraffe cannot feed from the ground,
by the testimony of M. Vaillant, w
that it can even drink from a river wh
is lower than the bank on which
stands; and M. Vosmaer says, this
confirmed by the structure of the neck
tebræ of which are connected with th
back by a very strong ligament.

The giraffe killed by Mr. Gordon,
fifteen feet ten inches from the gro
top of its head; and the length of
from the chest to the rump, was u
five feet seven inches. M. Vaillant a
he has seen several which were, at le
teen feet high; and M. Vosmaer w
by some respectable persons, that
killed giraffes which, including the h
twenty-two feet in height. The gira
melopardalis was evidently known t
mans in early times; for it appears
figures in the assemblage of foreig
on the celebrated Prænestine paveme
by the direction of Sylla; and is re
both grazing and browsing, in its na
tudes. It is also said to have been
at Rome, among other animals in the
games.

Those who have visited Abyssinia
very extraordinary animal, which is pro
one of the many species of monkeys.
represent as no bigger than a cat, but
the face of a man, with a mournful v
said to live upon the trees, where it
forth and dies; but is so very wild, th
possible to tame it; for when any of

n caught, in order to bring them up, all the
e that can be taken of them will not prevent
ir pining away till they die.

In Abyssinia are a great variety of birds, both
d and tame, and many of those found in Eu-
e are here larger and more beautiful than ours;
rticularly the partridges, which are said to be
large as our capons. Of these they have several
cies, as they have also of pigeons and turtle
es. The cardinal bird received its name from
Portuguese, on account of the beautiful red-
s of its feathers, except those on its breast,
ich resemble the finest black velvet. Here also
white nightingale, which is a very beautiful
d, that has a tail two spans in length.

Among the noxious animals, are serpents and
ects; many of the former are so extremely
nomous, that their bite is attended with almost
tant death, if a remedy be not immediately ap-
ed. But no reptiles are capable of doing a hun-
dth part of the mischief produced by the locusts,
ich sometimes appear in such thick clouds as to
ipse the light of the sun, and to lay whole pro-
ces desolate.

BUILDINGS.

THE city of Seunaar is situated upon the western
k of the Nile; the ground upon which it stands
ng just high enough to prevent the inundation.
Poncet's time, the houses were all of one story;
t now most of the officers and other great men
ve houses of two stories high. They are built
y mixed with a little straw, and have all flat

roofs, which shows that the rains here are
less in quantity than to the southward.

About twelve miles to the north-west
is a collection of villages called *Shaddi*
famous saint of that name, who const
veral granaries here. These are no
large pits dug in the ground, and well p
the inside with clay; then filled with g
it is at its lowest price; and afterward
up and plastered again at the top. On
pect of dearth these pits are opened, an
is sold at a reasonable rate.—About tw
miles north of Shaddly, there is anot
granaries, called *Wed Aboud*, still greate
former; and upon these two the subsiste
Arabs principally depends: for as these
continually at war with each other, and d
fury rather against the crops than the
their enemies, the whole of them would
voidably starved, were it not for these r

Gondar, the metropolis of Abyssinia,
upon a hill of considerable height, the
nearly plain, on which the town is plac
houses are chiefly of clay, and the roofs t
the form of cones, which is always the co
within the tropical rains. On the west
town is the king's palace, formerly a st
considerable consequence; but the gre
of it is now in ruins, having been burn
ent times: there is however ample lodg
two lowest floors of it, and the audience
is above one hundred and twenty feet lo
palace and its contiguous buildings are s
by a stone wall thirty feet high, with b
and a parapet roof, from whence the str
seen.

e ruins of Axum, once the capital of Abyssinia
ery extensive; but, like most cities of an-
times, they consist altogether of public build-
In one square, which is supposed to have
the centre of the town, there are forty obe-
but none of them are inscribed with hiero-
ics. The present town of Axum contains
six hundred houses; and is watered by a
stream that flows all the year from a fount
in the narrow valley where stand the above-
oned obelisks: this spring is received into a
ificent bason of one hundred and fifty feet
e, and thence is carried, at pleasure, to water
eighbouring gardens.

ring his stay in this country, Mr. Bruce vi-
the remains of the Jesuit's convent at Fre-
. It is built upon the even ridge of a very
hill, which rises from the east to the west,
ends in a precipice on the east; it is also
steep to the north, and slopes gently down
e plain on the south. The convent is about
le in circumference, built substantially with
s, which are cemented with lime mortar. It
towers in the flanks and angles; and, not-
standing the injuries it has sustained, the walls
in still entire, to the height of twenty-five
It is divided into three, by cross walls
qual height. The first division seems to
been destined for the convent; the middle
he church; and the third is separated from
by a well, and stands upon a precipice.

here are more churches in Abyssinia than in
other country; and though it is very moun-
us, and consequently the view much cha-
ged, a person seldom sees less than five or
churches, and if he be on a commanding

formerly this was only the case
was pagan or infidel; but now
served when the victories are
The sacred edifices are gener
running water, for the convenien
cations and ablutions which a
the Levitical law. They are alw
the top of some beautiful hill,
surrounded by rows of the oxyc
nian cedar, which grows here in
perfection. Among these cedars a
at proper distances, a number of
trees, which grow very high, and
picturesque; so that nothing adds
beauty of the country as these cl
plantations about them.
The churches are all round, with
and their summits are perfect con
is surrounded by a number of w
trunks of cedar trees, placed to supp
about of the

of holies: this is so narrow that none but the
t can go into it.
othing embossed, nor in relief, ever appears
y of the Abyssinian churches; as all this
d be reckoned idolatry; but they are full of
es, painted upon parchment, and nailed
the walls in a manner little less slovenly
paltry prints in country ale-houses. Some-
, for a particular church they get a number
ictures of saints, ready finished from Cairo,
style very little superior to these performances
eir own. They are placed like a frieze, and
in the upper part of the wall. St. George ge-
lly appears conspicuous with his dragon, and
Demetrius fighting a lion. There is no choice
e saints; for they are both of the Old and
Testaments, and many that might have been
ensed with from both. There are St. Pontius
e and his wife; St. Balaam, and his ass; St.
pson and his jaw bone; and so of the rest.
the thing that surprised our author most
a kind of square miniature upon the mitre of
priest who administered the sacrament at
wa, representing Pharaoh on a white horse,
ging in the Red Sea, with many guns and
ls swimming upon the surface of the water
nd him.

TOMS, MANNERS, RELIGION AND GOVERN-
MENT OF THE INHABITANTS OF NUBIA
AND ABYSSINIA.

THE inhabitants of Nubia are swarthy, and
all of stature. Those of superior rank, in the
t of the country, are clothed in a vest, with-

out sleeves, but the common people onl
piece of linen cloth about them, and the
go quite naked. Persons of quality, howe
fine long robes of silk or cotton; and
the women reach to the ground; the
adorn their hair with rings and other
of gold, silver, and brass, but have n
their legs or feet, except sandals.

Both men and women anoint them
least once a day, with camel's grease m
civet, which they imagine softens their s
preserves them from cutaneous erup
which they are so fearful, that they confi
selves to the house if they observe the
pimple on their faces. With the same
preserving their skins, though the better
a clean cotton shirt every day, they sl
greased one at night, having no other
Their bed is a tanned bull's hide, which

The generality of the inhabitants are Mahomet-
, but are said to have neither modesty, civility,
religion. Mr. Norden, who proceeded up the
le a considerable way into Nubia, found them
e, treacherous, mean, and avaricious, especially
ne of the great, who scruple neither threats nor
reaties to obtain the treasures they dare not
nder by open violence. They fight to greater
vantage on horseback than on foot, for they are
y expert horsemen; but as they poison their
apons, the Turks seldom venture to attack
m.

A French physician named Poncet, who passed
ough this country, in his way to Abyssinia, says
y are subject to a prince, who wears a long
e, embroidered with gold and silver, fastened
h a girdle of the finest cotton. On his head he
a turban of the same; but never appears in
blic, without having his face veiled with silk
uze of various colours. Those strangers who
admitted to pay their homage to him, are oblig-
to pull off their shoes, and kneeling to kiss the
und two or three times.

One of the most remarkable customs of this
untry is, that the king ascends the throne with
expectation of being murdered whenever the
neral council of the nation thinks proper. The
edful office of executioner belongs to a person
led the *Sid el Coom*, and who is always a relation
the monarch himself. The Sid el Coom in office
the time Mr. Bruce visited this country was
med Aclunet, and was one of his best friends.
had murdered the late king, with three of his
s, one of whom was an infant at its mother's
ast; and he was, also, in daily expectation of
forming the same office to the reigning sove-

sword,) and not in a more painful er
way, which the malice of his en
possibly have inflicted.

The same man observed, that the ki
little affected at the sight of his son's d
was so unwilling to die himself that h
pressed the executioner to let him esca
ing all his intreaties ineffectual, he s
last without resistance. On being ask
he was not afraid of coming into the
sence, considering the office he might p
to perform? he answered, that he was
least afraid on this account; that it was
be with the king every morning, and v
he evening; that the king knew he w
no hand in promoting his death; but
he matter was absolutely determined, t
nly an affair of decency; and it would
dly be his own choice rather to fall by t
relation in private than by that

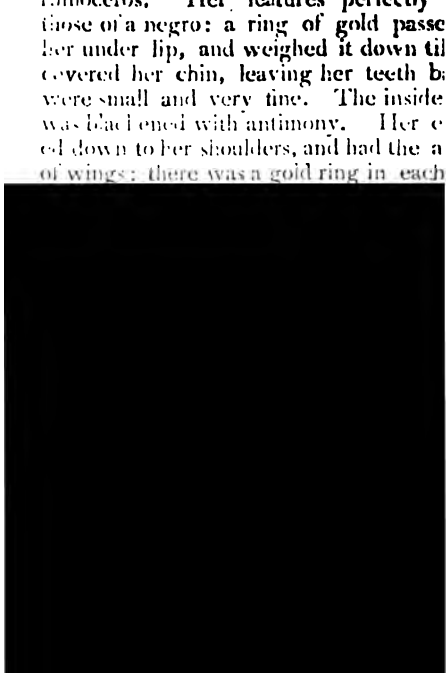
as he was washing his hands. For this, was afterwards put to death; not on ac- of the murder itself, but because, in the first he who was not the proper executioner, had ed to put the king to death; and in the ecause he had done it with a lance, where- only lawful instrument was a sword.

the death of any of the sovereigns of this , the eldest son ascends the throne; and as of his brothers as can be found are appre- , and murdered by the Sid el Coom in the already related. The princesses are ex- from the sovereignty, and are worse off ose of Abyssinia; having no settled income, ing treated in any degree better than the ers of private persons.—The king is oblig- in his life time to plough and sow a piece and; whence he is named *Buady*, "the man or peasant;" a title as common among narchs of Sennaar as Cæsar was among the s.

royal family were originally negroes; but kings frequently marry with Arab women, ite colour of the mother is communicated to ildren. This is said to be invariably the when a negro man of Sennaar marries an woman; and it holds equally good when an man marries a negro woman.

Bruce gives a very curious description of ens and ladies at the court of Sennaar. He cess to them as a physician, and was permit- y his visit alone. He was first shown in- rge square apartment, where there were nty black women all in a state of nudity, ing a narrow piece of cotton cloth about ists. As he was musing whether these

were all queens, one of them took him b
and led him into another apartment, m
lighted than the former. Here he
women sitting upon a bench covered
Surat cloth; themselves being clothed
neck to the feet with cotton shirts of the
lour. These were three of the king's
favourite, who was one of the number,
to be about six feet high, and so extrema
lent, that our author imagined her to be
est creature he had seen next to the el
rhinoceros. Her features perfectly
those of a negro: a ring of gold passe
her under lip, and weighed it down til
covered her chin, leaving her teeth b
were small and very fine. The inside
was blackened with antimony. Her
ed down to her shoulders, and had the a
of wings: there was a gold ring in each



ther nose, and hang down to the opening of
outh: having altogether something of the ap-
nce of a horse's bridle.

e present government of Sennaar was estab-
, in the sixteenth century, by a race of ne-
, named in their own language *Shillook*,
country, together with all the northern parts
rica, had been overrun by the Saracens dur-
e rapid conquests of the caliphs; but instead
ecting any distinct principalities here, as in
parts, they had incorporated themselves with
d inhabitants called *shepherds*, whom they
rted to their religion. In 1504, the Shillook,
ple before unknown, came from the western
of the river Bahiar el Abiad, and conquered
ountry; allowing the Arabs, however, to
their possessions on condition of paying a
n tribute. These founded the city of Sen-
and have ever since continued to carry on an
ourse with Egypt in the way of merchandise.
e establishment of their monarchy, the whole
n were pagans, but soon after embraced Ma-
anism, and took the name of *Funge*; an ap-
ion signifying conquerors and free citizens.

e Abyssinians are generally tall and well
ed; their complexion may be termed black,
ome are inclined to tawny or to a reddish
n. Among them the olive is esteemed the
complexion; and next to that, the jet black.
have regular and agreeable features, and
neither thick lips, nor flat noses; and their
are black, brisk, and lively. They are natu-
strong and healthy, and many of them from
temperance live to a good old age. Most of
are so *nimble* and active, as to climb the
trees, and the steepest rocks, with surprising

persons of quality wear a
of silk or cotton, tied about t
scarf; that of the citizens is
only of cotton, they not being
nor is their cotton of the
common people have only a p
and a kind of scarf, with whi
the rest of their bodies. As
are allowed to appear as fine a
will admit, and therefore
usually dress in the richest
their upper garments are wid
surplices. Their heads and
hundred different ways, and t
dants in their ears; besides, th
in the ornaments of their nec
chains and jewels. Indeed bo
men are extremely curious in
ir hair, on which they lav
er, to render it smooth and
more excusable, as none

small collars, and very long sleeves, gathered
writte.
me authors have spoken much of the temper-
of the Abyssinians in eating. It appears
ver, that they frequently regale themselves
aw flesh; and the following account of an
sinian banquet, as related by Mr. Bruce,
ently demonstrates that they are a barbarous
le, who will, without scruple, sacrifice every
g of humanity at the shrine of appetite.
In the capital," says our author, "where one
e from surprise at all times, or in the villages,
the rains have become so constant, that the
ys are no longer passable; in a word, when a
can say he is safe at home, and the spear
shield are hung up in the hall, a number
ople of both sexes meet together, to dine be-
n twelve and one o'clock. A long table is
d in the middle of a large room, and benches
n it, for the guests who have been previously
ed. A cow or bull is then brought close to
or, and his feet strongly tied. The skin that
down under the throat is cut only so deep
arrive at the fat of which it totally consists;
y the separation of a few small blood vessels,
seven drops of blood are suffered to fall on
ground, by which the Abyssinians suppose
selves to have satisfied the mosaic law. Two
re inhuman butchers then fall to work; on
ck of the beast and on each side of the spine
cut skin deep; then putting their fingers be-
n the flesh and the skin, they begin to strip
ke of the animal half way down his ribs, and
to the buttock, cutting the skin wherever it
rs them from stripping the suffering creature.
All the flesh on the buttocks is then cut off

in solid square pieces; and the prodigi
the animal makes is a signal for the comp
down to table.

"There are then laid before every
stead of plates, round cakes, about twic
as a pancake and somewhat thicker. It
vened bread made of a grain called teff;
different colours, from black to the cu
whitest wheaten bread. Three or four of
cakes are generally put uppermost, for
of the person opposite to whose seat
placed; and beneath them are four or
blackish kind, which serve the guest to
fingers upon, and are afterwards given t
vant for bread to his dinner. Two or t
vants then come, each with a square pie
in his bare hands, laying it upon the cak
placed like dishes, down the table, withc
or any thing else under them. By this
guests have knives in their hands; and
have the large crooked ones, which they
sorts of uses in time of war: the women
clasped knives, such as those which ar
Birmingham for a penny each. The com
so arranged that one man sits between
men; and the man with his long knife, c
piece which would be thought a good be
England, while the motion of the fibre
seem perfectly distinct, and alive in
a man in Abyssinia, of any fashion
himself, or touches his own meat.
e the steak, and cut it in long th
about the thickness of a little fi
ys into square pieces, somewh
dice. This they lay upon a piece
strongly powdered with black

salt; and then wrap it up in another piece
ad like a cartridge.
n the mean time, the man having put up his
with each hand resting upon his neighbour's
his body stooping, his head bent forward and
uth open, turns to the one whose cartridge is
eady; and she stuffs the whole of it into his
, which is kept so full, that he is in constant
r of being choked. This is a mark of gran-
for the more dignified a man would appear,
ger piece he takes in his mouth; and the
noise he makes in chewing it, the more po-
e is thought to be. Having dispatched this
very expeditiously, his next female neigh-
holds forth another cartridge, which goes the
way, and so on till he is satisfied. He never
till he has finished eating; and before he
s, in gratitude to the fair ones that fed him, he
up two small rolls of the same kind and
each of his neighbours open their mouths at
me time, while with each hand he puts their
n into their mouths. He then begins drink-
t of a large handsome horn: the ladies eat
ey are satisfied, and then all drink together,
a great deal of mirth and joke goes round,
t any mixture of acrimony or ill humour.
During all this time the unfortunate victim at
oor is bleeding indeed, but bleeding little;
long as his tormentors can cut off the flesh
is bones, they do not meddle with the thighs,
parts where the great arteries are. At last
all upon the thighs likewise, and soon after,

e Abyssinians have a proverb that says, "Beggars
ves only eat small pieces at without mashing."

[illegible] death, becomes [illegible] the rest of [illegible] separate the [illegible] like dogs."

[illegible] wild nor wa[illegible] was esteeme[illegible] The reason of this i[illegible] Judaism, they wer[illegible] municipal c[illegible] to the Mosaical [illegible] not corresp[illegible] those mention[illegible] that many [illegible] whether such an[illegible] to violate [illegible] understand [illegible] written a [illegible] there [illegible]

ny one of their marriages valid, all the issue of
at must be adulterous bastards.
computing their time, the Abyssinians have
nued the use of the solar year. Diodorus Si-
says, "they do not reckon their time by the
, but according to the sun, thirty days consti-
heir month, to which they add five days and
ourth part of a day, and this completes their
Whence they derive the name of their months
t be possibly ascertained, as they have no
ication in any of the languages of Abyssinia."
e method of describing time among these
e is peculiar to themselves. They read the
of the four evangelists every year, in their
hes, beginning with St. Matthew, proceed-
Mark, Luke, and John, in order. When
ing of any particular event, therefore, they
it happened in the days of Matthew," that
he first quarter of the year, whilst the gospel
Matthew was yet reading in the churches.
ime of the day is computed in a very arbitra-
egular manner. The twilight is very short,
imperceptible, and was still more so when
urt was situated farther to the southward in
As soon as the sun falls below the horizon,
comes on, and all the stars appear. This
the twilight, they have chosen for the begin-
of their day, and call it *naggé* which is the
hne the twilight of the morning lasts. The
is observed at night, and *meset* is meant to
y the instant of beginning twilight, between
ns falling below the horizon, and the stars
ring. Mid-day is called *kater*, a very old
signifying culmination, or a thing being
d *at the highest* part of an arch. All the
times they describe, in conversation, by

pointing out the place in the heavens where
sun was, when such and such circumstances
period.

Mr. Bruce observes, that nothing can be m
inaccurate than all Abyssinian calculations; for,
sides their ignorance of arithmetic, their aver
to study, and a number of fanciful combinations
which every particular scribe or monk th
guishes himself; there are obvious reasons w
there should be a variation between their chr
logy and ours. Our years begin on the firs
January, and theirs on the first day of Septem
so that there are eight months difference betw
us. And in the reigns of their monarchs they
dom mention either month or day beyond an
number of years. Supposing then, it be k
that the reign of ten kings extended from six
such a period, where all the months and day
comprehended, when we come to assign to
of these an equal number of years, without
correspondent months and days, it is plain
when all the separate reigns are added toge
the one sum total cannot correspond wi
other, but will be more or less than the jus
which each prince swayed the sceptre.

The Abyssinians assert that the Christia
gion was first introduced into their country
eunuch, or prime minister, of queen Ca
who returned into Ethiopia after his bapti
Philip, and instructed his royal mistress in the
of the gospel. But the discipline of the chur
settled about the year 335 by Frumentius,
of Axum, who was sent into Abyssinia
Athanasius, then sitting in the chair of St. M
Alexandria. It appears, therefore, that t
religion of the Abyssinians, which they

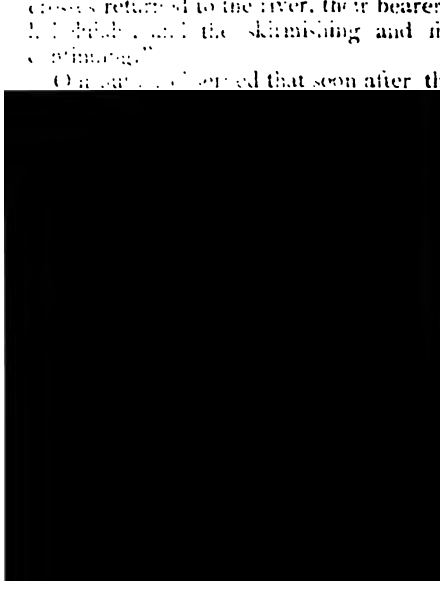
eir first bishop, was that of the Greek
and every right and ceremony in the
an church may be found and traced up to
n in the Greek church, while both of
ere orthodox.

entius preserved Abyssinia untainted with
ill the day of his death; but after that event
nks of Egypt introduced the detestable
s of Arius, and other heretics, by which the
soon became infected.

as settled by the first general council that
ptism only was necessary for the regenera-
man and listing him under the banner of
The Jesuits, however, affirm that in Abys-
ll adults were re-baptised every year; and
owing narration is extracted from the tra-
Mr. Bruce, who was an eye witness of the
ny here introduced to the notice of our
s.

he small river running between the church
wa and the Nile, had been dammed up for
days; the stream was scanty, so that it
y overflowed. It was in places three feet
n some, perhaps, about four. Three large
were pitched here the morning before the
of the Epiphany. About midnight, the
and priests assembled, and began their
and psalms at the water side, one party re-
another: and at dawn of day, the governor
Michael, came thither with some soldiers.
soon as the sun began to appear, three
rosses of wood were carried by three priests
d in their sacerdotal robes; each of whom on
g to the side of the river, dipped his cross
o water, *whilst* a confused firing, skirmish-
d *praying* went on together. The priests

with the crosses then returned, one of thei carrying somewhat less than an English water in a silver chalice. On approachi leta Michael, one of the priests took as mu as he could hold in his hands and sprinkl on his head, holding the cup at the same the governor's mouth, and saying at the sa "May God bless you." The three crosses w brought forward to Welleta Michael, and ed them. The ceremony of sprinkling th was afterwards repeated to all the grea the tent. Some of them not contented wi sion, received the water in the palms hands and eagerly drank it; and after the the governor's company had been sprink crosses returned to the river, their bearer [illegible] the skirmishing and fi continuing."



O[illegible] that soon after th

be bruised just before it is used; for it is
e more fluid than common marmalade, but is
fectly the grape as it grew, bruised stones and
together.

t is a mistake that there is no wine in Abyssinia,
quantity of excellent wine is made at Dreeda,
t thirty miles from Gondar, which might
ply a greater quantity than could be necessary
the celebration of the eucharist in all Abyssinia
nty times over. The people themselves are
very fond of wine, and plant vines in one
ce only; but a small black grape of an excellent
our grows plentifully in every wood in
gré.

Large pieces of bread are given to the commu-
nts in proportion to their quality; and our au-
r asserts, that he has seen some great men, who,
m the respect the priest bore them, had such a
ge portion of the loaf put into their mouths,
t water actually ran from their eyes, from their
apacity of chewing it.—After receiving the
rament in both kinds, a pitcher of water is
ught, of which the communicant drinks a large
ught. He then retires from the steps of the
er division, where the administering priest
ds, and, turning his face to the wall of the
rch, repeats a private prayer, with seeming de-
ey and attention.

Before we dismiss this subject, it may be pro-
to present our readers with an anecdote which
pened a few months before Mr. Bruce's arrival
Abyssinia, and was accidentally told him by the
est of Adowa, on the very day of the Epi-
ny.

"The sunday before Ras Michael's departure
m Adowa, he went to church in great pomp.

" This giving great offence to son
priests, it was told Michael, who, withou
ng himself, said only, " As to the fact
ng the hay, they are a parcel of hogs a
no better." These few words had g
priest of Adowa, who, with great secrecy
Mr. Bruce would inform him what was hi
of the circumstance, and what would h
lone, in such a case, in England. Our a
him, that the answer to his question depe
on two things, which being known, his d
would be very easily solved. " If," said I
elieve that the wine spilt upon the steps, a
vards trodden under foot, was really the
esus Christ, then you was guilty of a m
rime, and you should cry upon the mou
over you; as ages of atonement are not
o expiate it. But if, on the contrary, you
s many Christian churches do, that the w
vithstanding consecration, remained in

consequence of an accident, where inatten-
very culpable, will be imputed to you, and
further."

priest declared to Mr. Bruce, with the
earnestness, that he never did believe that
ments in the eucharist were converted, by
ration, into the real body and blood of Christ.
, however, that he believed this to be the
-catholic faith; but, for his own part, he
ed that bread was bread, and wine was
even after consecration.—From this exam-
hich occurred accidentally, and was not the
interrogation, it appears that some at least
the Abyssinians do not believe the real pre-
n the eucharist; but the majority may pro-
old a contrary opinion.

Abyssinians are not at all agreed about the
souls before the resurrection of the body.
eneral opinion is, that there is no third state;
the souls of pious men enjoy the beatific
immediately after the separation from the
This doctrine, however, is contradicted by
practice; for when any person dies, alms
en and prayers are offered for the departed
which must certainly be useless if it were
ed to be already in the presence of God,
possession of eternal felicity.

ceremony called incision is an usage fre-
nnd still retained among the Jews, though
ely prohibited by their law. As soon as a
lation dies in Abyssinia, a brother, parent,
in german, every woman in that relation,
es the skin of both her temples with the
her little finger, which is suffered to grow
nsiderable length for this purpose: hence
us that either a wound or a scar may be

—, elective in this lir
ther law nor custom which g
an exclusive title to succeed h

In order to prevent the anai
of blood which seemed likely
tiplication of heirs in the roy
deemed expedient to confine t
in a good climate, upon the mou
and to maintain them at the
They are there instructed in rea
and a certain quantity of gold i
state for their maintenance; ye
treated with severity, and, in tı
are liable to suffer death upon t
representation. While Mr. Bruc
nia, their revenue was so grossly
some of them actually perished wi
ger by the avaricious ras neglectir
with necessaries. Nor had the
our author could discern, that fe
might have expected from a pri-

always induce him to chuse an in-
whom he afterwards directs, during the
ty.

n this source are derived all the misfortunes
unhappy country. This very defect arises
desire to institute a more than ordinary per-
rm of government; for the Abyssinians' first
n was, "Woe be to the kingdom whose so-
n is a child;" and this they knew must often
n when succession is left to the course of
. But when there was a choice to be made
two hundred persons, all of the same family,
l capable of reigning, they conceived it must
ir own fault if they had not always a prince
per age and qualifications to rule the king-
But this mode of reasoning has proved fal-
s.

e king is anointed with plain oil of olives,
, being poured upon the crown of his head,
s into his long hair with both his hands. The
is a kind of helmet, in the shape of a priest's
covering the forehead, cheeks, and neck.
utside is a mixture of gold and silver, en-
with beautiful filligree work; and it is
with blue taffety.

is marriage the king uses no other ceremony
his: he sends an officer to the house where
dy resides, informing her, it is the king's
re that she should remove immediately to the
. She then dresses herself in her best ap-
and immediately obeys. Thenceforward
artment is assigned her in the palace, and a
given her elsewhere in any part she chuses.
when she is made *iteghé*, the king orders one
judges to pronounce in his presence that he
onarch) has chosen his handmaid for his

[illegible] and side posts of the cr
the steps before the altar, and the
sometimes there is service in the ch
there is not; but he takes no notice
He rides up stairs into the presen
his mule, and lights immediately
before the throne.

The officer called Serach Masse
ing a whip and making a noise wo
French postillions at the door of th
morning before dawn of day. Thi
tise is intended to chase away the
is also the signal for his majesty to
in judgment every morning fasting,
about eight o'clock, he goes to bre

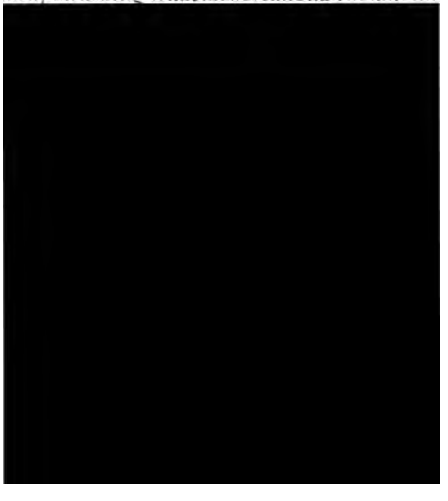
There are six noblemen of the k
sing, who are called Baalmaal, or
the bed-chamber, and four of them a
him. A seventh, called Azeleffa
groom of the stole, who is keepe
robe and first officer of the bed-cha

opinions according to their rank, the youngest
lowest officer always speaking first. The first th
give their votes are the shalaka, or colonels of t
household troops. The second are the great butler
men that have the charge of the king's drink. T
third is the badjerund, or the keeper of that apar
ment in the palace called the lion's house; an
after these the keeper of the banquetting hous
The next is called lika magwass, an officer th
always goes before the king to hinder the pressu
of the crowd. After the lika magwass comes th
palambaras; after him the fit-auraris; then th
gera kasmati, and the kanya kasmati; after the
the dakakin billetana geeta, or the under chambe
lain; then the secretary for the king's commands
after him the right and left azages or generals
then the rak massery and basha; and after these th
the kasmatis of Damot, Samen, Amhara, an
Tigré, the last of whom is called Nebrit, as bein
governor of Axum, or keeper of the book of th
law supposed to be there.

After the governor of Tigré comes the acab saa
or guardian of the fire and the chief ecclesiastic
officer of the king's household. After him come
the first master of the household; then the betwi
det or ras: and last of all the king gives his sentenc
which is final, and sends it to the table, from th
balcony where he is then sitting, by the office
called Kal-Hatzé.

It is a constant practice in Abyssinia to bes
the king's doors and windows within his hearing
and there, from morning till night, to cry alou
for justice, in a complaining tone, and in all th
different languages they are masters of, in orde
to their being admitted to have their supposed gr
vances heard. In a country so ill governed

abyssinia, and so perpetuallly involved in w
nay be easily supposed there is no want of p
who have real injuries to complain of. Bu
were not so, this is so much the constant usage
when, in the rainy season, few persons ca
roach the capital, a set of vagrants are main
nd paid for the sole purpose of crying and la
ng, as if they had really been much injured
his they affirm is for the king's pleasure, t
nay not be lonely by the palace being too
This of all their absurd customs, was the mo
olerable to Mr. Bruce. Sometimes, while l
n his apartment in the rainy season, he was
ined with a concert of sighs, groans, and
laints, so artfully performed that no ear cou
nguish but that it proceeded from real di
Our author was often so surprised as to ser
oldiers at the door to bring in one of the perfor
nd upon asking what misfortune had befallenh



of the land, that none of the royal family
o has any deformity or bodily defect, shall be
mitted to ascend the throne; and therefore if
rince happens to escape from the mountains
Wechné, and to be afterwards taken, he is
tilated in some of his members, that he may
disqualified from ever succeeding. In Persia
same was observed; for Procopius informs us,
t Zames, the son of Cabades, was excluded
n the throne, because he was blind of one
, the law of Persia prohibiting any person
t had a bodily defect from assuming the reins
government.

The kings of Abyssinia were seldom seen by
populace; and this absurd usage formerly
e rise to many abuses. In Persia it produced
officers, called the "king's eye," and the
ing's ear," who had the dangerous employ-
nt of seeing and hearing for their sovereign.
Abyssinia, it created an officer called the
ing's mouth," who promulgates his decrees, by
ing, "Hear what the king says to you;" and
at follows has the force of law.

The Abyssinian monarchs enjoy an absolute
ver in all causes, ecclesiastical and civil, the
ds and persons of their subjects, are equally
ir property, and every inhabitant of their king-
n is born their slave: if he bears a higher rank
by the king's favour: for his nearest rela-
s are accounted nothing better. This was,
, the case in Persia.

t always has been the custom of the kings of
ssinia to marry what number of wives they
k proper: these, however, are not all queens,
one of them called the iteghé, is considered
icularly as queen, and upon her head is

placed the diadem. Thus it appears th
erus, king of Persia, loved Esther, w
found grace in his sight more than the ot
gins, and he placed a golden crown up
head.

The Persian monarch, in all expedition
attended by judges. Six judges always
the king of Abyssinia to the camp, and
them rebels taken on the field, are tried
punished. Sometimes the king judges c
crimes himself; in which case, no man is
demned to die for the first fault, unless it b
very heinous nature: in general, also, the fo
life and merits of the prisoner are weighed ag
his immediate guilt; so that if his first behav
has had more merit towards the state than
present delinquency appears to have injure
the one is placed fairly against the oth
accused is

he same punishment was frequently inflicted
the kings of Persia.

Stoning to death is the next capital punish-
ent in Abyssinia, and is chiefly inflicted upon
rangers, called Franks, for supposed heresy.
he catholic priests that have been detected in
byssinia, of late years, have been stoned to
eath, and their bodies still lie in the streets of
ondar, covered with the heaps of stone which
easioned their death. In Persia we find, that
gorasus (according to Ctesias) was stoned by
der of the king; and it appears that Pharna-
as, one of the murderers of Xerxes, suffered a
milar death.

Among the capital punishments of Abyssinia
ay be reckoned the plucking out of eyes, which
generally inflicted upon rebels. Mr. Bruce
forms us, that after the slaughter of the battle of
agitta, twelve chiefs of the Galla, taken pri-
ners by Ras Michael, had their eyes torn out
d were afterwards abandoned to starve in the
lleys below the town. Several rebel noble-
en of Tigré, underwent the same misfortune;
d it appears that not one of them died in con-
quence of the operation, though it was per-
rmed in the most brutal manner, with an iron
reeps or pincers.

The bodies of criminals who have been put to
eath for treason, murder, or violence on the
ghway, are seldom buried in Abyssinia. The
reets of Gondar are strewed with their limbs,
hich bring the wild beasts into the city in such
mbers, as soon as it is dark, that it is almost
possible to walk from one house to another in
ety.

Notwithstanding the Abyssinians were so uncle-

ently and nearly connected with Egypt, th
never seem to have adopted the use of paper
papyrus; but imitated the practice of the Per
sians in writing upon skins; and this custo
they retain to the present day. From the grea
resemblance in customs between the Persians an
Abyssinians, we might be induced to conclude
that the Abyssinians were a colony of Persians
but it is well known that this was not the case
The customs mentioned as peculiar to Persia, were
n fact, common to all the countries of the East
nd they were lost when those countries were
over run and conquered by those who introduce
barbarous customs of their own. The reaso
why we have so much knowledge of the Persia
ustoms is, that they were written and so not liabl
o alteration. The history which treats of thos
ncient and polished nations, has preserved bu

ie regulation is lost. They break or purify, how-
ver, every vessel a stranger of any rank has ate
drank in. The custom, therefore, is evidently
orrowed from the Egyptians, and they have care-
lly retained it, though the Egyptian reason does
o longer hold. It was deemed an act of im-
iety in Egypt to eat a calf; and the reason was
vious, they worshipped the cow. In Abyssinia
o man eats veal, although every one is willing to
ast on the flesh of a cow: the Egyptian reason
o longer subsists, as in the former case, but the
ejudice still remains.

The men in Egypt did neither buy nor sell in
e market; and the same is the case now in Abys-
nia, insomuch that a man would be accounted
famous for going to the market, to buy any
ing. He cannot carry water nor bake bread; but
must wash the clothes belonging to both sexes,
d in this function the women cannot assist him.
is evident that this buying in the public market
women, must have ended whenever jealousy
sequestration of that sex began: hence it termi-
ted at an early period in Egypt; but, for the
posite reason, it subsists in Abyssinia to the pre-
nt day.

In speaking of the military force of Abyssinia,
me authors have used great exaggerations, for it
es not appear that any king of this country ever
mmanded forty thousand effective men, upon
y emergency whatever, exclusive of his house-
ld troops.—The Abyssinian standards are large
ves, surmounted at the top by a hollow ball;
low this is a tube, in which the staff is fixed;
d immediately under the ball is a piece of silk
forked like a vane, and seldom much broader.
standards of the infantry have their flags

painted two colours cross ways, yellow, white, red, or green. The cavalry have all a lion upon their flag; and on that of one division is a yellow lion with a white star above it, alluding to those prophecies, "Judah is a young lion," and, "There shall come a star out of Judah."

The king's household troops should consist of about eight thousand infantry, two thousand of which carry firelocks, and supply the place of archers; bows have been laid aside for near a century, and are now only used by Waito Shangalla, and some other barbarous nations. These troops are divided into four companies, each under a *shalaka*, which answers to an English colonel. Every twenty men have an officer, every fifty a second, and every hundred a third; that is, every twenty have one officer who commands them, but is himself subject to another officer who commands the fifty; so that there are three officers who command fifty men, six command a hundred, and thirty command five hundred, over whom is the shalaka. This body, when complete, is called *bet*, which signifies an apartment, because each of the regiments goes by the name of one of the king's apartments. For example, there is a room called Anbasa Bet, or the lion's house, and a regiment bearing the same name has the charge of that apartment: there is another called Jan Bet, or the elephant's house, which gives its name to another corps; and so on with the rest.

There are four regiments which depend entirely upon the king, and have the charge of his person while in the field. When the king is out of leading strings, these troops amount to four or five thousand, and enjoy very great privileges; but at times when the king's hands are weak, they

kept incomplete, from motives of fear and jealousy.

Before the king marches, three proclamations are made. The first is, "Buy your mules, get ready your provisions, and pay your servants; for after such a day they who seek me here shall not find me." The second is about a week after, or according as the exigency requires; this is, "Cut down the kantuffa in the four quarters of the world, for I do not know whither I am going." This kantuffa is a troublesome thorn, which greatly annoys the king and nobility in their march, by taking hold of their long hair, and the cotton cloths they are wrapped in. The third and last proclamation is, "I am encamped upon the Angrab, or Kahha; he that does not join me there, I will chastise him for seven years."—Mr. Bruce tells us, he was long in doubt what this term of seven years meant, till at length he recollected the sabbatic year of the Jews, with whom seven years was a prescription of offences, debts and all trespasses.

The Agows, in whose country Mr. Bruce discovered the sources of the Nile, are, in point of number, one of the most considerable nations in Abyssinia; when their whole force is raised they can bring into the field four thousand horse and a great number of foot: they were formerly much more powerful; but the frequent inroads of the Galla have considerably diminished their strength. Their riches, however, are still greater than their power; for although their province is no where sixty miles in length, nor half so much in breadth, yet Gondar and all the neighbouring country depend for cattle, honey, butter, wax, hides, and other useful articles, upon

Agows; who come constantly in succession, a thousand or fifteen hundred at a time, loaded with these commodities to the capital.

It is natural to suppose, that in a long carriage, such as that of a hundred miles, in a hot climate, butter must melt and be in a state of fusion, consequently very near putrefaction: this, however, is prevented by the root of a herb called *mocmoco*, which nearly resembles the shape and colour of a carrot; this they bruise and mix with their butter, and a very small quantity preserves it fresh for a considerable time.

Besides the market of Gondar, the neighbouring Shangalla purchase the greatest part of these commodities from the Agows; and give in exchange elephants' teeth, rhinoceros' horns, gold in small pellets, and a quantity of very fine cotton.

The clothing of the Agows consists entirely of hides, which they soften and manufacture in a method peculiar to themselves; and this they wear in the rainy season when the weather is cold, for here the wet seasons are very violent and of long duration. Their dress is like a shirt reaching down to their feet and girded with a belt about their waist: below the girdle it resembles a large double petticoat, one part of which they turn back over their shoulders, fastening it with a broach, or skewer, across their breast before. The women are generally thin, and, like the men, below the middle stature. There is no such thing as barrenness among them; they begin to bear children before they are eleven years of age, and generally leave off before they are thirty.

Besides what they sell and what they pay to *the governor of* Damot, the Agows have a parti-

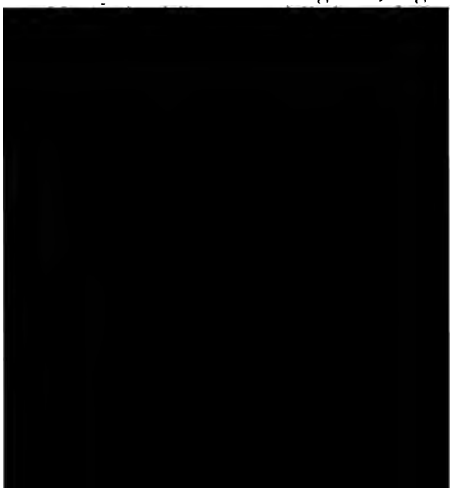
cular tribute which they present to the king one thousand dabra of honey, each dabra being large earthen vessel, containing about sixty pounds weight. They also pay fifteen hundred oxen, and one thousand ounces of gold. The officer who keeps the accounts and sees the rents paid, is called Agow Miziker: his post is worth a thousand ounces of gold, and by this it may be judged with what economy the revenue is collected.

The Agows are divided into clans, or tribes, and it is said that there never was a feud, or hereditary animosity between any two of these clans, or if the seeds of discontent happened to be sown they did not vegetate longer than till the next general convocation of all the tribes.

Once a year, upon the first appearance of the dog-star, the shum, or priest, assembles all the heads of the clans at the principal fountain of the Nile. Having sacrificed a black heifer that never bore a calf, they plunge the head of it into this fountain; and then wrap it up in its own hide so as no more to be seen. The carcase is next divided in half, and cleaned with extraordinary care; and when thus prepared, it is laid upon the hillock over the first fountain, and washed all over with its water, while the elders carry water in their hands from the two other fountains: they then assemble upon a small hill, to the west of St. Michael, where they cut the carcase into pieces corresponding to the number of the tribes, and each tribe receives as its privilege a particular part. After having ate the carcase raw according to their custom, and drank the Nile water, to the exclusion of all other liquor, they pile up the bones and burn them to ashes.

Having finished their banquet, they car
heifer's head, close wrapt from sight, into
vern, which they say reaches below the
tains; and there by a common light, w
torches or a number of candles, they pe
their worship, which appears to be a
known to many but revealed to none.
certain time of the night they return fro
cave; but our author could not learn wheth
head was buried, eaten, or burnt. The Abyss
have a story (probably invented by thems
that the devil appears upon this occasion
that with him the Agows eat the head, s
ing obedience to him upon the conditions
sending rain, and a good season for their be
cattle.

It is certain that the Agows pay divin
nours to a spirit supposed to reside in the
whom they call the "Everlasting God, Light



he (the priest) consulted his serpent, who ate readily and heartily, from which he knew that no evil would befal him from his visitors. He said the spirit was of a very graceful figure and appearance; he thought rather older than middle age, but he seldom chose to look at his face; he had a long white beard, and his clothes were not of leather, but like silk, of the fashion of the country." Mr. Bruce asked him, how he was certain it was not a man? at which he laughed, or rather sneered, shaking his head and saying "No, no, it is no man, but a spirit." Our author then desired to know why he prayed against thunder? He said, Because it was hurtful to the bees, and their greatest revenue consisted in honey and wax. And on being asked why he prayed for serpents? he replied, Because they taught him the coming of good or evil. It seems, indeed, that all the Agows have several of these creatures in the neighbourhood, and the richer sort keep them in their houses. When they undertake a journey, or any affair of consequence, they take a serpent from his hole, and put butter and milk before him, of which he is extravagantly fond. If he devour it greedily it is regarded as an auspicious omen, but if he refuse to eat, misfortune is supposed to be near at hand.

ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND COMMERCE.

THE Abyssinians have but few manufactures mong them, and though they are chiefly dressed cotton and linen, and their country is as pro- er for producing them as any in Africa, they ise no more than will serve their present wants; nd the less of either serves them as they use one either at their tables or for their beds. The ews are said to be their only weavers; and in ost parts of the kingdom they are their only miths, and work in all kinds of metal. Their otters and makers of horn trumpets, and drink- g-cups, are in the highest request; and with her inferior artists, are incorporated into tribes companies, and have their several quarters, e children commonly following the business of ir parents. Gold and silver smiths, jewellers,

ountry, by any other nation. Besides the above rticles of commerce, the Turks bring them seeral kinds of spices; and among the rest, epper, in very small quantities, which they eep up at so high a price, that few of the comion people in Abyssinia can purchase it. In eturn for these spices, the Abyssinians bring iem honey, wax, ivory, skins, furs, and leaier in great quantities; for which they are bliged to take what the brokers please to give iem.

CHAP

THESE countries generally
graphers, under the general
extend about twelve hundred
from north to south, along t
of Africa; but in no part re
miles from the sea within land.
Benguela is extremely unhealt
and particularly the Europeans
said to look as if taken out of th
climate of Congo Proper, howe
temperate, considering its bein
near the equinoctial. The w
March, when the sun enters the
and the summer in September, w
ters the southern signs; and i
never rains; but during five mo
ter, that is in April, May, June, J
they have but few fair days; t
with prodigious force, v
ow their banks and

skies, by driving the rain into the northern re gions. These winds cool the air, the heat o which would otherwise be insupportable. But n snow ever falls in these countries, even on the top of the mountains, nor is ice ever seen in winter.

In the kingdom of Congo are every year tw harvests; for they begin to sow in January an reap in April; the second time is in September and they reap what is then sown in December In the cultivation of the earth, they use neithe plough nor spade; for the clouds no sooner begi to afford the least moisture, than the women se fire to the herbs and roots; and, after the firs heavy shower has fallen, proceed to turn up th ground with a slight hoe, fixed to a handle abou two spans long, cutting into the earth with on hand, while, with the other, they scatter the seed which they carry in a bag by their sides. Whil thus employed, they have generally one or mor children upon their backs, to prevent their being hurt by the insects, which, upon this occasion come out of the earth in great numbers.

FOSSILS.

IN Angola are mines of salt, from which the dig it out in pieces above a yard long, and a clear as crystal. It is as white as our best salt and has such a peculiar flavour, that a piece of it put into a pot in which meat is boiling, gives both the liquor and meat, a pleasant seasoning.

In many places in the mountains of Congo are quarries of excellent stone, of various kinds from whence whole columns of a prodigious si with their capitals and bases, may be dug ou

be picked out like the kernels of
when they fall into grains and
perfect hyacinths. Beautiful columr
ed of the whole mass, which is
There are other stones, seeming
copper and other metals; which li
very beautiful, and take a fine poli

The mountains of Congo are li
abound with gold, but this is denie
ters; it is, however, allowed that
of silver and excellent copper, an
iron, which are wrought; the use
metal in making knives, arms, instru
culture, and other kinds of utensi
known to the inhabitants. Of the
and fossils of this country we have
account.

VEGETABLES

the corn of Congo, and another sort called Portuguese corn. They have various sorts of pulse, for the most part unknown in Europe; among which is a sort not unlike rice, but it grows upon a shrub, and will last two or three years, yielding fruit in great abundance, every six months. Among many other sorts of pulse are the mandois, which grow three or four together under ground, like vetches, and are about the thickness of an ordinary olive; from these they extract milk like that drawn from almonds. There is another sort of ground pulse called incube, which is of the size and shape of a musket-ball, and is very wholesome and well-tasted.

The root of a plant, called by the natives mandiaca, is frequently reduced to meal and made into bread. This plant is of various sorts, which differ in the roots, colour, and quality. The leaves resemble those of the oak, and are of a deep green, with many veins and prickles. The stem shoots upright ten or twelve feet high, spreading into many branches; but the wood is weak like that of the willow. In cultivating this plant, they dig up the earth, beat it small, and throw it into heaps; then lopping off twigs, or taking slips about a foot long, and an inch thick, set two or three in each heap, with the ends sticking out four or five inches above the earth. These instantly take root, and, in about a twelve month's time, grow above twelve feet high, with many branches, and the body as thick as a man's thigh. To make the root grow large, they keep the ground clean by weeding it, and when it is come to it's perfect maturity, cut down the stem close to the earth. The root being afterwards dug up, and the outside taken off, they reduce it to flour, by grinding it

pans over the fire. Many h
work, that are above a hu
thirty or forty broad, with
side. Every husbandman ma
as he thinks fit; and, if he ha
furnaces, he usually employs
in weeding, hoeing, grindin

There are, in this country,
size, the chief of which is c
ensada, and in some respects
tree, which we have already
of India; but in others it seem
commonly springs up with o
great height; and at the to
branches, whence descend sm
which, on their reaching th
and spring up again like nc
creasing in a little time to a la
fall new pendulums, which
spring up as before: so th

the young branches, like a common fig. Unde its outermost bark they find a substance, whic being beaten, cleansed and drawn out in length the common people make into a kind of cloth.

The mirrone nearly resembles the former, th boughs sending a number of roots to the ground but the leaves are like those of the orange-tree This is usually planted near the dwellings of th inhabitants.

Among the fruit-trees, are citrons, lemons, oran ges, guavas, and a great variety of others. Ther are likewise many that have medicinal virtues but the most surprising of them all is the migna migna, which is said to produce poison in on part, and its antidote in another; for, if any per son be poisoned by the fruit, which resembles small lemon, he will then be cured by the leaves and if he be poisoned by the leaves, he must hav recourse either to the fruit, or the wood.

The flowers of Congo are equally numerou and beautiful; and almost every field and grov yield a much nobler prospect than European gar dens can boast of, notwithstanding the pains be stowed on their cultivation. The Congoese flower are remarkable, not only for the prodigious va riety of their colours, but for the vast quantity o heads that grow upon one stalk. The lilies, whic grow naturally in the woods and fields, exce those of our gardens, both in delicate whiteness and delightful fragrancy. The wild tulips hav something peculiarly charming in the variety an combination of their colour; and their flowers grov ten or twelve upon a stalk, diffusing a most re viving odour, and continuing long in full bloom Of the same nature are the tuberoses, hyacinth

...attendance, and a
water, to prevent them from

AMONG a great variety o
seems peculiar to this country
coloured much like a bull,
others grey, and others brow
which are blackish, are like th
but very bright and shining; an
them into a great variety of
also make use of the raw hide d
shields; it being so tough that no
penetrate through it. This anima
ceedingly swift of foot; and, wh
follow the scent of gunpowder w
the hunters have no other way to
climbing a tree with all

with their horns outward, and defend themselves with surprising vigor and agility.

Another extraordinary animal is called the niossi, and is of the bigness of a cat: it is of an ash-colour, and has two small horns on its head. This is said to be the most timid creature that exists, being perpetually in motion, and starting or running at the least noise or breath of air. It is said, that, when drinking, it swallows a single gulp, then runs away as if pursued, and with the same fear returns till it has quenched its thirst. It does the same when browzing on the grass. Its flesh has an exquisite taste, and the natives prefer its skin to that of any other creature, to make strings for their bows.

In treating of India, we described an animal of the ape kind called, ouran-outang, as approaching nearly to the human race, in its stature, manner of walking, shape, and sagacity. We shall now notice the chimpanzee or pigmy, which seems nearly of the same species in every thing but its size. In the year 1738 (if we are rightly informed) Captain Flower brought over a female pigmy from Angola, which was two feet four inches high, had a face like a man, and was tolerably fair, except on the chin, where a few straggling hairs appeared. Its nose was small and like that of an ape, its mouth about two inches and a half wide, and its teeth shaped like human teeth, but neither very white nor sound. The hair on its head was an inch or more in length, and its back parts were pretty hairy; but on its breast and belly the hair was much thinner. Its feet were entirely bare on the inside, as were also the hands both on the inside and outside.

to the spectators. Its food was
bread, milk, nuts, apples, a
which last it greedily devoured,
sion to all kinds of flesh, exce
a bit of rabbit or chicken. It
about six months, and being
death, it was found to have die
jaundice.

The chimpanzee, dissected m
Dr. Tyson, was also brought fi
measured twenty-six inches fro
head to the heel. The thickest
was sixteen inches round, and t
arm was seventeen inches from
the end of the fingers. The face
more nearly resembled that of
ce of an ape or a monkey de
as big as either of theirs;
alike in both. The ears,
tructure, were entirely like
had no eye brows, though

thinner. The navel of the chimpanzee is very visible in the exact place, and is in all respect the same as in man: but the palms of its hands and the soles of its feet, are always of an equal length, and longer in proportion than those of men. Its toes are as long as its fingers, the middlemost toe being longer than the rest; and the great toe, like the thumb, is set off at a distance from the others.

Several authors have said, that, in the sea of Angola, and in many other places, is a fish eight spans in length, with the head oval, and the face somewhat resembling that of a man. It is said to have a high forehead, small eyes, a flat nose and large mouth; but it has neither chin nor ears. It has two arms, which are short, and without elbows, with hands or paws, to each of which are four long fingers, which are not very flexible, connected by a membrane like that of the foot of a goose. Their sex is distinguishable by the parts of generation. The females have breasts to suckle their offspring, the upper part of their body resembling that of the human species, and the lower part that of a fish. Their skin is of a brownish-grey colour, and their intestines resemble those of a hog. Their flesh is as fat as pork, particularly that of the upper parts of their bodies; and this is a favourite dish with the natives on shore, who broil it. This kind of sea ape makes a lamentable cry, when drawn out of the water. We are told there is a bone in the head that divides the brain, which the Portuguese powder, and say it is of great service in the stone and gravel. Accounts of the catching of these animals in Europe, are related by Wo-

rous, and extremely beautiful, are i
into very splendid umbrellas, but
and ensigns. The king of Ang
keep great numbers of the latter, i
rounded with high walls; and to
his dominions to breed or keep thei
of his using the feathers in his ensi

There are here a great variety o
tinguished by their different sizes
particularly a small bird of the par
bigger than a sparrow, but of a fi
the most delightful colours. But the
ed are the singing birds, which
larger than the canary bird, and o
lours; some being all over greer
and some all white; others grey, c
these last have the sweetest note.

With respect to reptiles, the cour
with a variety of serpents, some of
presented as being of an enormou

The most pernicious kind of insects in this country are the gnats, of which they reckon no less than six several species of different colours and sizes; all of them formidable on account of their prodigious numbers, and the mischief they do not only to the fruits of the earth, but also to beasts and men, whom they will surround in the night time, and devour even to the very bones. It is a common practice, we are told, to condemn persons guilty of some atrocious crime, to be stripped naked, tied hand and foot, and thrown into a hole where these insects swarm, where they are sure to be completely devoured in less than twenty-four hours. Criminals, however, are not the only persons who are in danger from the jaws of those destructive insects. People are liable to be attacked by them whilst sleeping in their beds; and therefore the natives are obliged to be very careful where they lie down, and to have a circle of burning embers round their beds. These precautions are particularly necessary in the villages and hamlets, where persons would be otherwise in danger of being attacked by millions of them in the dead of the night. In such a case, the only expedient is to jump up immediately, to brush the insects off with all possible speed, and then to set the house on fire.

The danger is still greater in travelling through the country, where a person is often obliged to take up his lodging on the bare ground, and may be overtaken during the heat of the day, with such profound sleep, as not to be awaked by these venomous animals till they have made their way through the skin; and in such a case, nothing will *prevent* their devouring a man alive, though there were ever so many persons to assist him:

them, by proper culti
them to undermine thei
with impunity.

Another species of the
lie so thick upon the patl
a person cannot walk w
and having his legs near
A third sort of a red and w
their way through the hai
into a strong chest, and in
all the clothes, linen, and
it. A fourth species, sma
most intolerable stench up
crawl over, whether appare
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pass over victuals, they are
fifth sort harbour chiefly on
and if a man happen to clir
himself from a wild beast, he
by them, that nothing but th

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ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

set fire to their wings, which half broils
—Amidst this variety of pernicious insects,
r, the Congoese have one species of a more
and profitable kind, viz. the industri-
, which furnishes all the provinces with
nd wax in such abundance, that there is
a hollow tree, a clift of a rock, or a chasm
arth, in which their combs are not to be
n great quantities.

BUILDINGS.

E houses of the common people, like those
inea, are generally round huts, with no
vs, nor any light but from the doors, which
ually so low, that the shortest man must
o enter them. The houses of the city of
vadore, and some other of their towns, are,
er, somewhat higher, better thatched, and
washed both within and without; these
ided into apartments, the chief of which
eir floors matted. Those belonging to per-
rank are still more capacious, and have a
hall to receive visitors in, with distinct
ents for the ladies, servants, and slaves,
g like so many huts, either adjoining to
her, or enclosed by a wall. The houses of
rtuguese are commonly built of brick and
after the European manner, and are, for
st part, decently furnished; but they have
been able to induce the Congoese to imitate
ode of building.

furniture of the natives chiefly consists of a
-contrived instruments of agriculture; a

treats, and ...
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great measure, to the
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most intolerable sten
crawl over, whether
which are not easily s
pass over victuals, the
fifth sort harbour chie
and if a man happen
him self from a wild be
[illegible], that nothing
[illegible] could make h

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l lines, forming neat streets that are gene-
retty broad.

royal palace is a spacious building encom-
with a square wall, and resembling a small
but the wall that faces the Portuguese quar-
the only one built of stone and mortar; the
hree sides being only of straw, neatly dis-
; and the walls of the inner apartments are
same materials, but covered with hangings
ts, curiously wrought. The inner courts
n gardens and orchards, adorned with alleys,
s, and pavilions, that make a handsome ap-
ce. Here are ten or twelve churches, of
the cathedral and seven others are within
wn, and three within the palace. The Je-
ave also a college. That part which is en-
and called the Portuguese city, is about a
n compass, and the king's palace is nearly the

some parts of these African countries, there
idges of a very singular construction. Se-
tall trees are fastened together by the tops,
float on the water, while the roots rest on
nks; these are covered with dry bamboos,
e whole forms a passage, sloping from each
ward the middle, so as to resemble an in-
l arch. In the rainy seasons, these bridges
metimes carried away; but a small tribute,
ed from passengers, serves to rebuild them.

OMS, MANNERS, RELIGION, AND GOVERN-
MENT.

IE complexion of the Congoese is generally
though some are of a deeper dye than

this is so common, not only
also among the nobles, that
in travelling from place to p
the provisions and every t
their way. These violence
ple to conceal the few valual
secret place, out of the reach
they generally deem themse
escape a severe bastinadoing,
ver their places of concealme

To the indolence of these p
ed the little produce they r
while the Portuguese settled a
manner of plenty. The nat
rather run the risk of the m
than be at the tenth part of th
see taken by the Portuguese.
them think it altogether inco
dignity to use any other exer
dancing, leaping, hunting, sh
of their time.

make use of for laborious services, and though
y see the Portuguese do it every day to great
antage; yet they will rather see their women
t under their toil, than take the trouble of train-
up any of these useful creatures to their assist-
e.

he greater part of the inhabitants live upon fruit,
in, roots, and pulse: their usual beverage is
ter, but they sometimes regale themselves with
m wine. They are very fond of entertainments,
l usually feast in the evening when they seat
mselves upon the grass round a large wooden
ter: and if any person happen to be passing by,
or she thrusts into the ring, and has an equal
re with the rest. At these entertainments they
g love songs, and play upon several kinds of
sical instruments.

Some authors, writing either from mere conjec-
e or precarious information, have represented
ngo as thinly peopled. The Portuguese, how-
er, found the country for the most part, covered
h towns and villages, and these crowded with
abitants. The metropolis is said to contain
ve fifty thousand souls; and though the pro-
ces are not equally populous, yet in the whole
y make up such an amount as plainly proves,
t what is wanting in the one is amply made up
the other. It is said that Bamba is still able to
e two hundred thousand fighting men, and
s formerly in a condition to raise double that
nber; and that the army of the king of Congo,
1665, consisted of nine hundred thousand fight-
men, who were attended by a prodigious num-
of women, slaves, and children. The num-
s of the Congoese will appear the more credible,
n we consider the extreme fertility of their

directly upon him whether they shall remain in the
me or be transferred to another family. The
rtuguese, however, have prevailed upon the
narchs to permit the heirs to remain in undis-
bed possession of such lands; to avoid the con-
ions and rebellions which the deprival of them
equently occasioned, and to induce the tenants
pay their tribute more readily.

The kingdom is partly hereditary and partly
ective; but the person chosen must be of the
yal blood, though whether he be born of a wife
concubine is perfectly immaterial. He must
o profess the Roman catholic faith before he can
pear as a candidate for the crown.

The Portuguese have no sooner agreed upon a
ccessor, than all the grandees of the realm being
mmoned to appear near St. Salvadore, they
oceed in procession to the cathedral, once a
ble structure built by the Portuguese, but since
n to decay; however, on these occasions, an
ar is richly adorned, and near it is a splendid
rone, on which the bishop, or his vicar, is seat-
; and near the other end of the altar, is a chair
state, on which is seated an officer, who is to
clare the person elected, and is surrounded by
e candidates, who impatiently wait to know
ho is chosen; but before he makes his procla-
ation, he rises from his chair, and, kneeling
fore the altar, repeats a prayer, and then, re-
rning to his seat, pronounces a long speech on
e duties of a monarch, and the numerous cares
d difficulties that attend the crown: afterwards
serving that he, and the other electors, have
partially weighed the merit of the candidates,
d have chosen such a one to enjoy the supreme
nity. *He* then steps forward, takes him by

the hand, and, bringing him to the bi
both kneel before him, while the pre
him a short admonition, exhorting hi
himself a zealous protector of the Chri
gion, and an obedient son of the chur
king then takes the usual oaths; after
bishop leads him to the throne, give
royal standard, and places a crown
head. Upon which the whole assembly
trate, and make loud acclamations, v
joined by martial instruments and the
artillery. From that time the new k
the name of one of the kings of Portug
his predecessors have done, ever since
of the first Christian monarch.

When the king goes abroad, he is at
a numerous guard, some of whom are ar
muskets, and others with lances, bows,
rows; but they march before him wi
regularity; these are followed by crowd
cians, next to whom are the officers of t
hold, followed by the knights of the H
an order instituted by the first Christia
Congo. The king then appears preced
young pages; one bearing a royal shield
with a tyger's skin, and the sword of stat
with precious stones; the other holds a st
has a large knob of silver at each end, a
vered with red velvet. On each side of
ride two officers, fanning him with hor
and behind them a third holds, over hi
large umbrella of red damask, richly fri
embroidered. He proceeds to mass with
same pomp.

Though the king is allowed but one
he may have as many concubines as h

these, on entering the palace, are confined
ng the remainder of their life.

he Angolans are universally allowed to be
, elegant, and handsome in their persons;
the disposition of their minds is variously
resented by different authors. Those who
w them only in a state of captivity, represent
m as the most obstinate, lazy, and untractable
ll the slaves purchased on the African coast.
those who have seen them in a free state, on
r native soil, speak of them as an amiable,
ceable, and hospitable people, who from the
ility of their country and simplicity of their
nners, live very much at their ease. It is
ubtless owing to these circumstances, that they
play such a difference of character in these
posite situations; and that these injured peo-
, when carried into captivity, show an inde-
ndency of spirit, and impatience of con-
, much superior to the natives of the Gold
ast; where, the soil being barren, the inhabi-
ts are more accustomed to labour and hard-
ps. The manners, dress, and religion of the
golans, are nearly the same with those of the
ngoese already described.

The inhabitants of Loango are very black, but
ll shaped, and of a mild and tractable disposi-
on; and most of them are said to be convert-
to Christianity. The men wear long petti-
ts from the waist downwards, and have round
middle a piece of cloth, half an ell or a quar-
broad, over which they wear the skin of some
d beast, hanging before them like an apron.
their head they wear a quilted cap, made of
ss, and ornamented with a feather; and in one
d they carry a buffalo's tail, to drive away

the mosquetoes. The womens' petti
made only of straw, about an ell squar
leave the greatest part of their legs bare
of their body is entirely naked, excep
their ancles they wear small strings
and bracelets of ivory on their arms. Th
themselves with palm oil mixed with a
red wood reduced to powder. Every
ries as many wives as he pleases, and
obliged to procure their husbands a livel
is the custom all along the African coa
king is said to keep nearly fifteen hund
cubines, who are guarded very strictly
one of them is surprised in an illicit am
and her paramour are instantly conveye
top of a very high hill, whence they a
down headlong, and dashed to pieces. T
revenue consists in elephants teeth, cop
a kind of petticoats made of palm leaves,
ed *lavogus*; he has whole store-houses
these lavogus; but his greatest riches c
slaves.

ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND COMM

ALTHOUGH the greater part of t
goese abhor the idea of engaging in a
labour, there are some few individuals
not such violent enemies to honest ind
Working of iron is highly esteemed amo
from a tradition that its first inventor be
terwards king of Congo; yet it is perf
a very awkward manner. The workma
the ground, or at best upon a stone, w

d hammer in one hand, a piece of iron in
her, and, instead of an anvil, a flat stone
een his legs, upon which he beats and shapes
on, while his foot is moving a wretched pair
lows, to heat another. Instead of digging
e out of the mines, they content themselves
what the heavy rains and torrents bring down
ind of dirt into the valleys; and for receiv-
, dig holes and trenches. When it is settled
bottom, and the water taken off, or dried
ney cover the whole with charcoal; and by
ng it, when lighted, purge the metal from
oss, and melt it into a lump, which they
vards fabricate in the above manner, per-
ng the whole with so little art, that their
tars, cutlasses, and points of their lances,
and arrows, are very ill-shaped and clumsy.
to their joiners and carpenters, who are
of one trade, their tools consist of an ill-
d ax, the back of which serves for a ham-
at one end is also a kind of chisel, the other
rp-pointed like a puncheon, and both are
d to a wooden handle: the work they pro-
is clumsy, and, being performed with such
ard tools, is six times as long, before it is fi-
l, as a better hand, with proper tools, would
making a more perfect work.
ir manner of weaving is no less rude, and
is astonishing to see the curious work they
m by the most simple means, and without
loom or shuttle. They only fasten their
s at both ends to pieces of wood laid upon
ound, at an inconsiderable distance; for
ever weave a piece of greater length than
rve for one single garment. Having braced
ads of the woof as tight as they can, they

one day, as they can perform in t

The potters, for want of a wh
clay by the help of a piece of a gou
them as a mould; and, instead o
quantity of straw over and about

The principal commodities,
Portuguese into Congo, are eithe
Brasil, or the manufactures of Eu
consisting chiefly of grain, fruit, l
provisions; and the latter of copp
sels, English cloth, Turkey ca
made of cotton, linen, and woolle
tobacco, wine, brandy, and oth
quors; blue earthen ware, ring
of gold, silver, brass, and baser m
beads, bugles, and other trinket
these articles, the Portuguese car
digious number of slaves, that s
the annual amount from this kin
of their other settlements on the
[illegible]

CHAP. VI.

OF CAFFRARIA AND THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Situation, Climate, Soil, &c.

CAFFRARIA is an extensive country on the most southern part of Africa, and is particularly famous on account of the Dutch settlement at the Cape of Good Hope, its extremity to the southward, and the unaccountable manners and customs of the Hottentots, its original inhabitants. The greatest part of the country about the Cape is filled with rocks and mountains, which, long after this country was discovered by the Europeans, by being only viewed at a distance, were thought to be barren; but their spacious summits are covered with rich pastures, enamelled with a variety of flowers of uncommon beauty and fragrance, and abound with fine springs flowing in many streams into the valleys. The skirts of the mountains are interspersed with groves that afford excellent wood for inlaying; while the plains and valleys consist of fine meadow lands, which nature has adorned with such a profusion of beauties as to charm the eye of the beholders, and are embellished with the finest trees, plants, and flowers, that fill the air with the sweetest odours.

The Table Mountain, near Cape Town, is a stupendous mass of naked rock, which imposes an involuntary attention upon the most indifferent observer, and more peculiarly engages the contemplation of the mineralogist. It seems to have received its name from mariners; as those

sons generally give the epithet of Table land to every considerable eminence whose summit appears, to the spectator, in a parallel line with the horizon.

The northern front of the Table Mountain is a horizontal line, about two miles in length, and standing directly opposite to the town. The land front that rises at right angles to meet this line, is supported by several projecting buttresses, which, rising from the plain, close in with the front, a little higher than midway from the base.—These with the division of the front into three parts, (a curtain flanked by two bastions, the first retiring and the other projecting,) render the appearance of the mountain extremely similar to the dilapidated walls of some stupendous fortress.

The height of these seeming walls is three thousand five hundred and eighty-two feet above the level of the adjoining bay: the eastern point is still bolder, and has one point considerably higher; to the west, the rock is rent into deep chasms, and worn away into various pointed masses; and about four miles toward the south, the mountain descends in successive terraces to a chain which extends entirely along the peninsula.

The two wings of the front, called the Lion's Head, and the Devil's Mountain, are, in fact, but disunited fragments of the Table Mountain. The height of the former is two thousand one hundred and sixty feet; and that of the latter three thousand three hundred and fifteen. The upper part of the Lion's Head is a circular mass of stone, which, from some points of view, exactly resembles a dome like that of St. Paul's Cathedral *erected upon* a lofty cone-shaped eminence; but *the Devil's Hill* is broken into a variety of irregular *flats*.

hoever surveys with an attentive eye the
t horizontal position of these three mountains,
h are composed of multitudinous tabular
es, must be convinced that their origin was
unian, and that no convulsion of the earth has
happened in this part of Africa, since their
ation, sufficiently powerful to disturb the nice
gement of their parts.

he ascent to the summit of the Table Mountain
hrough a deep chasm, about three quarters of
le in length, which divides the curtain from
eft bastion. The perpendicular cheeks at the
are above a thousand feet high, and the angle
cent is equal to forty-five degrees.

fter quitting the romantic scenery of the chasm,
passing the portal, which forms two lines of
al perspective upon the summit, a stranger
a momentary disgust at the tame and unin-
ting plain extended before him; but this feel-
invariably subsides when he perceives the
ishing command obtained by his elevation
surrounding objects.—On approaching the
of the mountain——

e weak brain turns, while down the craggy height
e wondering traveller bends his aching sight;
e seaman's lessen'd form astonished views,
o'er the main some gliding bark pursues:
o' far beneath, the sullen billows roar,
petuous foam, and lash the sounding shore,
e *vast ascent* their thundering noise repels,
d on its head eternal silence dwells.

l the objects on the adjacent plain are, in fact,
nished to insignificance in the eye of the spec-
: the houses of Cape Town appear like childish
s *composed of* cards; the shrubbery on the
isthmus is merely visible; and the neighbour-

ing farms, together with their enclosures, rese
small picture held up at a distance.

On the summit of this mountain, the air
siderably lower in the clear weather of wint
in Cape Town; and in summer the differ
still greater, when the head of the mountai
veloped by a fleecy cloud, not inaptly
"the table cloth."

The soil is so extremely rich, as to be
of every kind of culture; it bears almost a
of grain, and every kind of fruit trees. T
gion about the Cape, however, is subject
terous winds, which generally blow from the
east or north-west; for, while the sun is
southern signs, they hold in the south-eas
while in the northern signs, in the nortl
In the south-east, they are troublesome ar
gerous to the ships coming in; in the nortl
to the ships at anchor; and, frequently b

kind that can be met with elsewhere; so that by
these, and by the excellent water which abounds
there, this settlement is the best provided of any
in the known world, for the refreshment of seamen
after long voyages.

VEGETABLES.

THE vegetables of Caffraria, especially in t
countries near the Cape, are extremely numero
Among those natural to the soil is the aloe,
which there are many sorts; and not a few
them are planted in the delightful gardens belo
ing to the Dutch East-India company. They
seen in great numbers on the mountains and
clefts of the rocks; and one sort or other
blossom throughout the year.

The ananas, or pine-apples, at the Cape
of the American race, and there are three so
them in the Dutch colonies; one called ja
which is the largest and best tasted: the col
the outside is red and dark yellow; but wit
is near a perfect yellow. The other sorts
bonjama and the jajagna: The apple of th
species is white within, and in taste re
Rhenish wine. But we shall defer giving
ticular description of the ananas, till we
America; however, it will be proper her
serve, that these at the Cape have a certain
ny, which the Cape Europeans remove b
them in slices, and laying them in sprin
and, after this they are laid in Rhen
with sugar scattered upon them, whe
deliciously, having much the taste of s

some fruit of an exquisite flavor
are also figs of various kinds, all of th
sweet and good. The choicest and
Pisang figs, grow upon a plant that
brought them to maturity, than it
and the next year a new plant yie
agreeable tribute, springs up from
is remarkable that this plant has no
leaves, which are from six to seven y
from two to three broad, embrace e
the ground upwards, forming a
Its blossom consists of four leaves
themselves into a sort of bell. O
proper season produces about fifty of
purple figs.

There are a great number of
the Cape colonies, and the fruit is sa
and better than the quinces pro
other part of the world. Of this
ropeans make great advantage, h
ways of preparing and preserving q

There are here two sorts of Indian orange-trees which are larger than any other trees of the same kind; and the fruit, which is much bigger, is spotted like the skin of a tyger. Here likewise are several sorts of sweet and sour lemon-trees and in the gardens are walks of them of a great length.

The pomegranate-trees are much larger here than in any other part of the known world; the fruit is also so large and in such plenty, that it is frequently necessary to prop up the branches, to prevent their being broken down by their weight. There are two sorts of them, the kernels of which differ in colour, one being yellow, and the other of a bright crimson; but they both contain a very pleasant, cooling juice, which is extremely refreshing in hot weather. There are also two sorts of netted melons, or pompions, which are of the Indian kind, and grow very plentifully in the Cape colonies. In shape and size they nearly resemble our melons, but both are on the outside of a dark green; and, within, the fruit of one sort is of a whitish colour, with white seed; and in the other of a carnation, with black seed. Both sorts are very sweet and juicy, but that with the black seed is esteemed the best; they are extremely refreshing in fevers, speedily and very agreeably quenching the thirst.

Vines were transplanted to the Cape from the Rhine, from Persia, and many other countries; these are vastly increased, and yield so plentifully that the Cape Europeans have much more excellent wine than they can drink, and therefore sell a great deal to the ships who touch there.

The dwarf tree, called cripple wood, has very *crooked knotty* branches with broad, rough

[illegible] transplanted to the Cap[illegible]
Borneo, which is esteemed [illegible]
other three sorts were brought [illegible]
and [illegible] they all grow ve[illegible]
size of a [illegible]. The in[illegible]
of an ash-colour, and the outs[illegible]
and, on rubbing them with the [illegible]
forth a strong odour, like that of [illegible]
[illegible] are so soft and tender that [illegible]
frequently stripped off by the wi[illegible]
nothing is left standing but the t[illegible]

The Indian gold-tree at the [illegible]
[illegible] high, and has small le[illegible]
[illegible] gold, speckled with [illegible]
[illegible] They have particula[illegible]
[illegible] ranged in gardens among [illegible]
the blossoms are very small, [illegible]
lour, without the less, scent[illegible]

[illegible]
oak, [illegible]

nificent he ever saw in the whole course of his travels through the interior of Africa. It was a lily, seven feet high, which waved majestically on its flexible stem, and literally impregnated the passing gales with its exquisite fragrance. The stem was six inches in circumference, and furnished with leaves that were three feet long, and three feet and a half wide. On the upper part were displayed, in beautiful order, thirty-nine corollas, or flowers; of which eighteen were in full bloom, six half blown, and fifteen just ready to open. The greatest number formed a calyx, one third larger than that of European lilies; their petals, of a charming flaxen grey on the outside, and as white within as unsullied snow, were finely bordered with crimson, and set off by a pistil and stamina, whose colours were equal to the finest carmine. "In short," says our author, "this plant, produced in solitude, and pure as the sun which had fostered it, had been respected by all the animals of the district, and seemed sufficiently defended even by its own beauty."

Having caused this charming lily to be cautiously dug up, M. Le Vaillant found that its bulb measured thirteen inches in depth and twenty-seven in circumference. In shape and colour it nearly resembled the bulb of a tulip; but instead of being composed of several coats, it was pulpy, full, and weighty. Having been properly arranged in a basket, it was carried to our author's tent, where he enjoyed the pleasure of seeing all the flowers open in regular succession, and of inhaling its reviving perfume, till its odour was, at length, exhausted, and its strength completely decayed.

quently attempt to enter the gardens; whence the inhabitants place traps before those that are most exposed to their inroads. These gardens being usually encompassed with a ditch, over which is a bridge at the entrance, they fix in the ground, at one corner of the bridge, a strong, pliant, taper pole, fixing to the small end of it a long rope, by which that end of the pole is pulled down to the other corner of the bridge, where it is fastened so slightly, that by a small touch it is freed, and flies up with great force. When the small end of the pole is thus properly fixed, the remainder of the rope is formed into several nooses and coils, and laid under the arch of the pole. An elk coming to one of these gardens, and finding no communication but by the bridge before the door, steps upon it through the arch; and, hampering his legs in the coils of the rope, shakes the pole, on which the small end flying up, and fastening him in one of the nooses, he is drawn up, and unable to escape. If by struggling he breaks the pole, it is a hundred to one but he falls into the ditch; and, if he escapes that, he drags a piece of the pole after him, which so embarrasses him in his march, that he may be easily taken.

The hart of the Hottentot countries resembles those of Europe in every thing but its horns, which are only about a foot long, and have no branches, but run up twisting in the manner of a screw to about half the length; then, turning a little outward, are straight and smooth to the point.

There are here goats of many different species, the most remarkable of which are the following: The blue goats are shaped like those of Europe, but are as large as a hart: Their hair, which is

short, is of a fine blue; though when they killed, it changes to a bluish grey; their ds are pretty long; and their horns, which short and very neat, are annulated till within tle of the point, which is straight and smooth. tted goats are sometimes seen in herds of ve a thousand in number; and are covered h red, white, and brown spots; they are ra- larger than the blue goats; and their beards, ch are of a brown red, are very long. Their are well-proportioned to their bodies; and oints about their fetlocks are of a dark brown; horns, which are about a foot long, incline wards, running up twisting to the middle, whence to the end they are very straight and oth. The young ones are easily taken, and ren- d so tame, as to run with flocks of sheep; their flesh is very agreeable food.

here is another sort of goat which has a very ful head, adorned with two smooth, bend- pointed horns, three feet long. A white nk runs from the forehead along the ridge of back to his tail, and is crossed by three streaks, over his shoulders; another is on the middle he back, running down both sides to his belly; third crosses it above his buttocks, and runs n them. On all the other parts of his body hair is greyish with little touches of red; only belly approaches to white. His beard is grey pretty long, as are also his legs. The female, ch is less than the male, is without horns; the flesh is also very agreeable food.

he Cape rock-goat is seldom bigger than an pean kid of a quarter old, and his horns are *t half a foot long*; as he frequently enters neyards and gardens, where he does great

mischief, he is narrowly watched, taken; and his flesh is esteemed a grea

The diving-goat, is almost as large a nary tame one, and is much of the sam but he no sooner sees any person or th which he apprehends danger, than he squ in the grass; and seeing nothing but g him, perhaps imagines himself unseen he lies, giving now and then a peep drawing his head suddenly down again, the danger is past, or he is shot, or kn the head.

Lions are very common at the Cap they are extremely large, and every li pressive of the greatest strength: the fi their tread, their dreadful paws, and eyes, command attention, and show thei superior to that of other animals. Som have affirmed that the bones of the lion hard as they have been represented by ents; but Mr. Kolben observes, that th which runs through the shin-bone of a li small as that which runs through a tobac and when it is broken to pieces, and the exhausted by the heat of the sun, these p pear as hard, smooth, and solid as fli serve altogether as well to strike fire wi deed, a considerable part of this animal's lies in the hardness of his bones; for comes upon his prey, he knocks it do and never bites till he has given the mor which he generally accompanies with roar. When enraged, or pinched with he erects and shakes his mane, lashing *and sides* with his tail. When thus ena *is certain* death to come in his way; *nerally* lurks for his prey behind bus

lers are sometimes devoured by him; but if he neither shakes his mane, nor makes any great motion with his tail, a traveller may be fully assured of passing by him in safety. A horse no sooner discovers a lion than he runs full speed; and, if he has a rider, throws him, if possible, in order to run the faster. When a traveller on horseback discovers a lion, the best method of preservation is instantly to dismount, and abandon his horse, which the lion will pursue, without taking notice of him. The flesh of the lion is said to taste something like venison.

The leopard and tyger are of the same nature, and in point of fierceness, next to the lion. The only difference between them at the Cape is in their size, and the figure of their spots. The tyger is much larger than the leopard; and is distinguished by rings of black hair, enclosing spots of yellow; while the black streaks on the leopard are not round, but formed with an opening. The flesh of a tyger or leopard is white, tender, and well-tasted; it is even said to be much finer eating than the best veal, and to have every good quality that can be wished for in meat, and the flesh of the young ones is as tender as that of a chicken.

In this country are two sorts of wolves, one like those of Europe, and the other called tyger wolves. The latter are of the size of a shepherd's dog, or somewhat larger; and the head, broad like that of an English bull-dog. Their jaws, nose, and eyes are also large, and their hair is frizled, and spotted like that of tygers. Their feet are large, and armed with strong talons which they draw in like a cat, but their tails are short. All day they keep in clefts of the rocks

mischief, he is narrowly wat
taken; and his flesh is esteemed

The diving-goat, is almost as
nary tame one, and is much of t
but he no sooner sees any person
which he apprehends danger, than
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horseback discovers a lion, the best method
preservation is instantly to dismount, and aban
don his horse, which the lion will pursue, with
out taking notice of him. The flesh of the lio
is said to taste something like venison.

The leopard and tyger are of the same nature
and in point of fierceness, next to the lion. Th
only difference between them at the Cape is i
their size, and the figure of their spots. The
tyger is much lesser than the leopard; and is dis
tinguished [illegible] of black hair, enclosing spots
of yellow [illegible] black streaks on the leopard
are no [illegible] ed with an opening. The
flesh [illegible] pard is white, tender, and
well- [illegible] much finer

or holes in the ground, seeking their prey only in the night, howling most dismally while out upon the prowl, which rouses the dogs who keep the flocks: these join together against the enemy, and drive them away; but, if they get safe into a fold, they generally kill two or three sheep, and having fed heartily upon the spot, carry some carcases away to their dens. The lion, tyger, and leopard, follow these animals by their howl, and coming softly near them, suddenly tear them to pieces.

There are here also wild dogs, which sometimes make great havock among the cattle. They seem to be a species of hounds; and packs of thirty, and sometimes forty of them, encounter lions, tygers, and other animals; which by their numbers they conquer. They spend the greatest part of the day in the chace, and drag what they kill to a place of rendezvous, where they share it amongst them. Both Europeans and Hottentots, when they discover these dogs on the chace, follow them to the place of rendezvous, and take what they think proper of what the dogs have killed, which they permit them to do very quietly. The Hottentots eat what they take from the dogs; and what the Europeans take they salt for their slaves. These dogs however sometimes destroy seventy or eighty sheep in one flock.

In this country is a little creature called a rattle-mouse, though it is larger than an European squirrel, and has a head shaped like that of a bear. The hair on the back is of a liver-colour, but that on the sides is almost black. With its *tail, which is* neither very long, nor very hairy, *it, from time* to time, makes a rattling noise, and *has thence* obtained its name. It feeds on acorns

nuts, &c.; purs like a cat; and is mostly seen in trees, leaping from one to another, after the manner of the squirrel. It is so nimble, and bites so sharply, that it is seldom taken alive.

One of the most extraordinary animals of this country is called by the Dutch stinkbingsen, or stinkbox; its noisome stench being the grand defence this creature has received from nature against all its enemies. It is of the shape of a ferret, but as large as a middle-sized dog. When its pursuer, whether man or beast, comes pretty near, it pours from its tail so horrid a stench, that it is impossible to endure it; a man being almost struck down by it before he can get away; and a dog or other animal is so strangely confounded, that he is obliged every minute to stop to rub his nose in the grass, or against a tree. The animal, having thus stopped his pursuer, gets a great way a-head before the chace can be renewed; and, if he comes up with him a second time, repeats the same expedient, and by this means escapes again. Thus he proceeds till his pursuer, overpowered by the stink, is obliged to desist. This animal, however, is sometimes shot by the Europeans, but they are obliged to suffer it to lie till it rots; for it is no sooner dead than its whole body contracts so nauseous a smell, that, if any one does but touch it with his fingers, they retain a stench that can neither be endured, nor easily got off by washing.

Among the feathered race at the Cape, there are a vast variety, the most particular of which are the ostriches, of which we have already given a description, in treating of the animals in Turkey *in Asia*.

The flamingo is a fine and beautiful bird, ha

ger than a swan; the bill is very broad, and the upper mandible, which is longer than the other, is very crooked, and bends considerably over it. The bill is black at the point, but every where else of a dark blue, and is furnished with sharp teeth. The neck is much longer than that of a swan; and both the head and neck are white as snow; the upper part of the wing feathers are of a bright flame colour, and the lower part of them black; the legs are of an orange-colour, and half as long again as those of the stork; and the feet resemble those of the goose. These birds which are here very numerous, keep in the day-time on the lakes and rivers, and at night retire to the hills, where they sleep among the long grass. Their tongue eats like marrow, and their flesh is well-tasted and wholesome.

The spoonbill, also called the serpent-eater, is somewhat larger than a full grown goose which it resembles in its neck; the bill is broad, long, and straight, terminating in a form somewhat like the bowl of a spoon; the eyes are grey, and the feathers of the tail are about six inches in length. These birds feed upon serpents, toads, frogs, &c. and are of such service in destroying the former, that they are seldom killed.

Among the wild fowl is a sort of birds called the knor cock and knor hen. These are a kind of centinels, and give warning to all other birds of the approach of danger; for they no sooner discover a man, than they begin to cry very clamorously; and thus frequently disappoint the sportsman; for the other birds no sooner hear them, than they fly quite out of sight. This bird is of the size of a common barn-door fowl; the bill is short and black, as are also the feathers on the

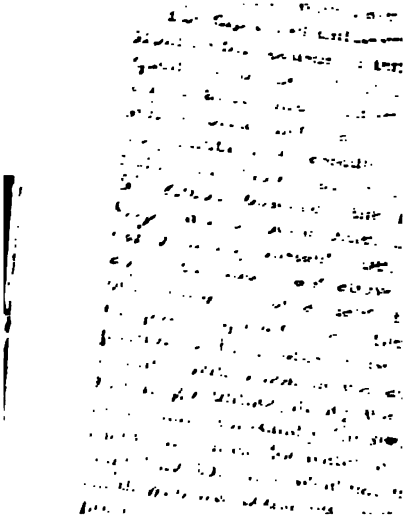
crown of the head; but the rest are a mixture r
red, white, and ash-colour; the wings are smal
which prevent its flying far at once, and the leg
are yellow. These birds generally keep in heath
far from the habitations of men; and their flesh
is of an agreeable taste.

The blue-bird of the Cape is of the size of
starling; the feathers of the neck and thighs ar
of a sky blue, and those of the back and wing
of a dark blue, approaching to black. The bil
which is between three and four inches long,
pointed, and the under mandible of a dar
red. The flesh of this bird is accounted very de
licate.

Among the several kinds of wood-peckers,
a beautiful bird called the green-peak, it being a
over green, except a red spot on the head, an
another on the breast. It feeds on small insect
which it picks from the bark of trees.

The little bird called the long tongue, is some
what larger than the goldfinch, with yellow fe
thers on the belly, and the rest speckled. Ti
tongue, which nature has given it for its de
fence, is not only long and pointed, but is
hard as iron, and as sharp as the point of
needle; therefore, when any person ende
vours to seize this little animal, it makes u
of its tongue to prick and wound him. I
claws are pretty long, and its feet like thos
of the nightingale. Its flesh is well-tasted an
wholesome.

The honey-eaters, or gnat-snappers, live entir
ly on honey, bees, gnats, and flies; their bills a
red, long, straight, and very strong. On t
upper part of the breast the feathers are of a d
azure, and those on the lower part of a pale



irst was considerably abated, and the plaister
drawn a great deal more of the yellow hu-
; and, being cleaned, was put on again.
swelling was, by this time, considerably
d, and the man was soon perfectly cured.
e tree-serpent is so called, from its being ge-
y seen in trees. It is about two yards long,
ree quarters of an inch in thickness, and, by
ng itself about the branches of trees, re-
for a long time without motion; being so
e branch it covers, that one, who has not
good eye, or some knowledge of this rep-
would be mistaken: all the difference, in
of colour, consists in its being a little
led. If a person stands near the side on
it is lodged, it darts its head at his
and sometimes wounds him; which it has
oner done, than drawing back its head, it
about, in order to descend from the tree,
nding from one part to another; but is so
hat it is easy to kill it before it reaches the
d.
e hair-serpent of the Cape is about a yard
and three-quarters of an inch thick; but,
h so small, its poison is reckoned more ma-
t than that of most others, its bite causing
t death, unless an antidote be immedi-
pplied. The most effectual remedy is the
it-stone brought from India, of which we
given a particular account in treating of

e species of snakes is called by the Dutch
serpents; and are from an inch and a quar-
an inch and an half in thickness; and about
l in length. They are not only fond of
n houses, but of getting into people's beds.

consequence.

Scorpions are here so nu
Europeans are very cautiou
stones, where they gener
of being stung by them.
few centipedes, which are
about a finger's length, but s
they are downy like the cate
horns. Their bite is as dan
scorpion ; but the applicatic
to the wound is an effectu
the spiders are many sorts;
than a pea is very dangerou
colour, and very active, fast
or cielings of houses; and, i
its web in the grass. Its bi
that it causes death, unless a
in time.

Among the fish in the se
Cape of Good Hope, are
known in other places. hor
found in

n muscles and other fish. The colour of the
t is a mixture of white and red; and is not
esteemed very wholesome, but a great
nser of the blood.

he Cape silver-fish is of a very white colour,
ned with several streaks that resemble bright
er, falling from the ridge of the back, down
sides; and the tail seems covered with
er. It is of the shape and taste of a carp,
small sharp teeth, and weighs about a pound.
h these and the gold fish appear in the
only at certain times, when they come in
ls, and great numbers of them are caught.

he bennet is a very beautiful fish, of which
e is great plenty. It is covered with large
es of a bright purple, intermixed with streaks
old. The eyes are red, the mouth small,
without teeth; and near the gills are two
l-coloured fins; but the other fins are of a
t yellow. The tail is reddish, and in the
n of an open pair of scissars. The scales
n transparent, as does likewise the skin;
when the scales are taken off, the skin is of
ight purple. This animal is of the length
thickness of a man's arm, and weighs from
to eight pounds. The meat is of a crimson
ur, and is divided into several parts by a
of membranous substance interwoven with
It is agreeable to the palate, and easy of
stion.

he sea about the Cape abounds with a very
fish called the stone-brassem. Of these
e are several sorts; one is shaped like a
, but is much finer eating, and weighs from
to eight pounds. They are of different co-
, but their backs are brown; some have

of a pale green; the eyes are ta
with a silver circle about each: t
small, and, as it were, under the
furnished with little sharp teeth. T
called Jacob Eversons: the reason
thus given by Francisci, and is al
Cape to be strictly true. "Ther
years ago," says he, "a master of
Cape, whose name was Jacob Eve
a very red face, and was so deepl
the small-pox, that his beard, whic
could never be shaved so close, but
hairs would remain; so that his f
was shaved, resembled the colour,
to have the specks of the red st
This man being once a fishing with
red stone-brassem, at Maurice-isl
crew dining that day very cheerful
sort of fish, one of them took it in h
fit of mirth, to call it the Jacob Ev
crew were struck with the brightne

cob being charmed with the happy allusion, this w name for the red stone-brassem, together ith the reason of its assignment, soon after reach- l several settlements in the Indies; and was so ell received there, that red stone-brassems (of hich the Indian seas furnish plenty) have gone ere by the name of Jacob Eversons ever since." -There is a species of these fish, which differ om those last described, in their being larger, ving shorter mouths, and the out-parts of the illet being of a deep red.

Among the shell-fish at the Cape, the sea por- pine snail appears worthy of notice. It has any beautiful colours, and is armed almost in very part with long prickles, which stand out uch after the same manner as the raised quills of e porcupine. Sea suns and sea stars are also riven ashore by the tide: their shells are multan- ular, approaching to a globular form; but the a sun is the smallest, and its shells nearly resem- le a globe. The shells of both are also covered ith a thick, scaly skin, and have small prickles pon them, shooting out every way like beams of ght, whence they receive their names; but the rickles on the sea suns are longer than those of he sea stars. There is here also that beautiful hell-fish called the nautilus, of which we shall give n account in treating of America, and shall here nly add, that here is a very extraordinary shell- ish, called the pagger; it is covered with dark rown scales, spotted with red and black; but on he back of it, near the head, has a mischievous ind of horn or prickle, of a poisonous nature, which is apt to wound the hand that touches it; in which case it causes a most acute pain and inflam-

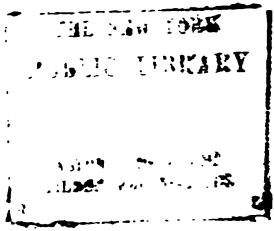
mation, and without speedy assistance the ha
perishes.

BUILDINGS.

CAPE TOWN, according to the best and m
recent accounts, is tolerably extensive, and h
in a good style; the streets spacious, and int
secting each other at right angles with great p
cision. The houses in general, are built of sto
cemented together with a glutinous kind of ear
which serves as mortar, and afterwards plaster
and white-washed with lime. As to their heig
they do not, in common, exceed two stories,
account of the violence of the easterly winds; a
for the same reason thatch was formerly preferr
to tiles or shingles, but the bad effects which rev
from this mode when fires happen, has induc
the inhabitants in all their new buildings to gi
the preference to slates and tiles.

The streets are rough and unpaved; but ma
of the houses have a space flagged before the doo
and others have trees planted before them, whi
form a pleasant shade, and give an agreeable air
the streets. The lower parts of the houses, a
cording to the custom of the Dutch, are uncom
monly neat and clean; and the furniture is rath
rich than elegant, but the bed-rooms, or upp
apartments, are very ill furnished.

The castle is a very stately and extensive struc
ture, which covers the eastern part of the town an
harbour, and is provided with all manner of a
commodations for the garrison. The superior off
ers of the company have very spacious and hau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ome lodgings within its walls; besides which it ontains the company's storehouses, commodiously rranged.

The governor's house is delightfully situated in he company's garden, which is as public as St. ames's park, and is much frequented by persons f every description. This garden is laid out in a ery tasteful manner, and contains all the rich fruits, he beautiful flowers, and most of the valuable plants o be found in Asia, Africa, and America. At the pper end of the principal walk is a small enclo- ure, for confining some large ostriches, and a little o the right of this is a small menagery of curious irds and beasts.

There are two churches in Cape Town; one rge, plain and unadorned, for the calvinists, and smaller one for the lutherans. The hospital is n extensive edifice, situated at the upper end of he town, and close to the garden; where the onvalescents reap the benefit of a salubrious air, erfumed with the exhalations of odoriferous shrubs nd flowers; and likewise have the use of its pro- uctions, both culinary and medicinal.

In another part of the town is a large building alled the lodge, and appropriated to the use of he company's slaves, who are chiefly brought rom Madagascar. This edifice is divided into wo wards, one for the accommodation of each sex; vith a large room in which the slaves receive their llowance; and a strong prison, where the drun- en and refractory are confined. Here are decent partments for the officers who superintend the aves, and a school for the education of their ildren.

The company has, likewise, a very handsome *nge of stables*, capable of containing several

a bee-hive; the ground plot being
to twenty-four feet in diameter.
are so low, that it is scarcely possi
dle-sized man to stand upright in th
arch; but neither the lowness of th
of the door, which is but just three
be considered as any inconvenience
who finds no difficulty in stooping
times more inclined to lie down
The fire-place is exactly in the mid
by which means the walls are toleral
accidental conflagration, and the in
usually sit or lie in a circle, enjoy
cipation of warmth. The door, low
the purposes of a window and chin
Hottentots are so accustomed to live
mansions, that their eyes are neve
nor their healths injured by the mep
the fuel, which to Europeans wo
death.

The frame of the arched roof is

them either with sinews, or a kind of catgut
ch they sometimes get from the Cape Europe-
so that they have it in their power to make
o as long as they please, and as broad as the
th of the reeds, which is generally from six to
feet.—The aperture which is left in each hut
door is closed occasionally by a skin; and
habitations of the chiefs are sometimes hung
beautiful skins and a variety of trinkets.
en a Hottentot intends to shift his dwelling, he
all the rods, mats, and skins, of which it is
posed, on the backs of his cattle; which to a
ger make a monstrous and even ridiculous ap-
ance. An assemblage of about twenty huts
titutes a *kraal* or village.
he huts of the Caffres, are higher, larger, and
regularly formed than those of the Hottentots.
frames are well constructed of solid timber,
plastered over with a composition of clay and
s dung, which appears as smooth as the finest
ar; the floors are similar in substance to
walls; and every hut is provided with a circu-
earth, surrounded by a border of about three
es in height.—At the distance of six inches
each hut, a small trench is usually dug, for the
ose of receiving water, and securing the in-
ants from the ill effect of any moisture.
ic habitations of the Houzouanas are smaller
those of the colonial Hottentots and very dif-
nt in form; being cut vertically through the
lle. When the inhabitants emigrate, either
choice or necessity, they leave their huts
ing, for the accommodation of any of their
ren, who may chance to pass that way.

CUSTOMS, MANNERS, RELIGION, AND GOVERNMENT.

The inhabitants of Cape Town, though in their persons large, stout, and athletic, have not the characteristic phlegm of Dutchmen;—a circumstance which may probably have resulted from the physical influence of climate. The ladies are universally noticed by travellers on account of their beauty, good humour, and vivacity; and from their peculiar gay turn, they are said to admit of liberties which would be deemed reprehensible in England; though perhaps they as seldom overleap the bounds of virtue as the women of other countries.

Children are not here subject to the caprice of their parents, as is too often the case in Europe; for the family property must be equally divided between the offspring, whether male or female; and no person is allowed to disinherit his child, without assigning, on absolute proof, one reason out of the fourteen which are enumerated in the Justinian code.

As the establishment of public seminaries has not yet been successfully planned by the government, the education of youth has been, consequently, much neglected; yet many of the young females have attained several accomplishments, which their limited means of instruction must have rendered equally tedious and painful. Most of the young women in respectable families are conversant with the French and English languages; excellent in all kinds of tambour, lace, and knotting work; and capable of performing upon the

ichord, or other musical instruments, with tu-
le taste and judgement.

e males, while boys, are naturally clever and
ious; but for want of proper attention, which
t teach the young idea to expand, and in-
e the laudable thirst of erudition, their fa-
s are gradually enveloped in a cloud of igno-
; and the youth whom nature had evidently
ed with superior talents, soon degenerates in-
e most despicable character, and sacrifices
literary attainment to the brutish enjoyments
od and sleep.

ch diseases as prevail among the colonists,
to be rather the effects of pernicious habits,
the result of any unhealthiness in the climate.
indolent sedentary life, excessive gluttony,
n immoderate use of raw spirits and tobacco,
e distinguishing characteristics of a native of
Cape; by which means a schirrous liver or an
lexy is brought forward, the former usually
the slave of intemperance to an early grave;
he latter, though seldom attended with sud-
leath, terminates in a dropsy, and thus proves
ly fatal with the other.

e children at the Cape are commonly afflict-
ith sore throats and cutaneous eruptions: the
pox, however, has been seldom seen since
establishment of the colony; nor are the
les endemic, though more frequently expe-
ed.

casional balls are the only public amusements
pe Town; and family parties, who assemble
e purpose of dancing or card-playing, afford
nly proofs of social intercourse between the
lants. Money and merchandize are the *on-*
topics of conversation, though very few of

the natives can be styled opulent: there are many, however, who enjoy a decent competency; while the objects of charity are but few, and beggars are utterly unknown in the colony.

Carriages for pleasure are here maintained at a very trifling expence. Those which are used for short excursions are open, and capable of containing from four to six persons; but long journies are always performed in a light machine, somewhat resembling a waggon, which is sufficiently spacious to accommodate a whole family, together with their baggage and provisions, and is sheltered from the weather by a covering of sail cloth. The Hottentot drivers are extremely dexterous in their avocation, and will either turn abruptly, or gallop through the most dangerous avenues, with eight in hand, with the greatest facility imaginable.—The governor and some of the principal people keep coaches, which are built almost in the British style, and are always drawn by six horses.

The government of this colony is conducted by the eight following councils. First the grand council of policy, consisting of the governor, who is perpetual president, and eight others; generally the next principal officers in the company's service. This council superintends trade and navigation, and corresponds not only with the court of directors in Holland, but with the Dutch government at Batavia and Ceylon; and has, in short, the management of every thing relative to the safety and interest of the settlement.

The second is the college of justice, which generally consists of the same members as the *preceding*. This court hears and determines all *civil and criminal* causes of importance that happen *among the Europeans* at the Cape. But if a

ean, who is not in the company's service, be
plaintiff or defendant, the three regent bur-
sters, annually chosen out of such as are not
company's pay, assist at the trial, to see that
is no partiality in favour of the company's
dants. Appeals lie from the decisions of
urt to the supreme court of justice in Bata-
d also to the supreme court in Holland.
e third is a petty court, dependant on the
r punishing breaches of the peace, and set-
respasses and small debts. It is composed of
mber of the grand council, three of the
ers, and four of the company's immediate
its. Copies of all their proceedings, in this
nd in the college of justice, are, from time
, transmitted to Holland.
fourth is the court of marriages, which
ntends all contracts of this kind among the
eans at the Cape, takes care that the consent
parents and guardians of both parties is ob-
, and that their is no pre-contract or engage-
with any other person. These points being
gated and settled, a warrant is granted to
stor of the parish where the parties live, au-
ng him to publish the banns of marriage, and
orm the ceremony. This court consists of
me members with the petty court already
ed.
fifth is the chamber of orphans, which is
sed of the vice-president of the grand coun-
e of the company's servants, and three
rs. Orphans of fortune cannot marry with-
concurrence of this chamber, till twenty-
rs of age.
sixth is the ecclesiastical college instituted
overnment of the reformed churches at the

Cape, and for the proper application of monies given for the use of the poor. It consists of the pastors, the two elders of each church, and twelve overseers of the poor. It is probably from the care of this council, in its impartial application of charitable collections and donations, that not a single mendicant is to be seen in the whole settlement.

The seventh is a court of common council. In every colony there is a separate court of this kind consisting of a certain number of burghers. In the Cape Town this council proposes matters, in favour of the burghers, to the grand council, and collects the taxes. But in the colonies this body hears and determines all debts and trespasses, not exceeding a hundred and fifty florins; and also tries and punishes most crimes committed within its jurisdiction.

The eighth is for the regulation of the militia. These boards are double: one for the Cape Town, the other for the colonies.

Having given this brief account of the European inhabitants of the Cape, we must now turn our eyes upon the colonial Hottentots, whose customs, manners, religion and government have been particularly described by Mr. Kolben. We are, indeed, perfectly aware that some of this gentleman's assertions have been contradicted by later authors; but itis highly probable that a man of his talents, learning and respectability would take care to inform himself thoroughly on all points which he undertook to publish to the world; and as the *major* part of his account coincides with those of his successors, we shall not hesitate to lay it before *our readers.*

Hottentots are neither so small of stature
formed and wrinkled as some writers have
d them. Most of the males are from five
et high; but the females are considerably
Both sexes, however, are very erect
made, keeping a due medium between
and corpulency. There is not a crooked
other piece of deformity to be seen
hem; which is the more remarkable, as
e much less care of their children than
n women do.

heads are generally large, and their eyes
ortionably so. Their general mien, how-
so far from being wild and terrible, that it
etly composed, and expressive of the
benevolence and good nature. Their most
able features are their flat nose and their
s, particularly the uppermost; but the
on of their noses is the effect of art. Their
e white as ivory; and their cheeks have
g of a cherry colour, but from continual
, their natural complexion is not easily
d. The men have large broad feet; but
he women are small and tender. Nei-
nor women pare the nails of their fingers

weather, the men have their heads con-
ncovered, except what fat, soot, and dirt,
r hair. This disgusting protection, they
s their heads cool, under the fiercest sun
but in cold and wet seasons, they wear
le of lamb or cat skins, which they fasten
strings. The face and fore part of the
wever, are always exposed.

the man's neck hangs a little greasy bag,
he carries his pipe and tobacco, with a

little piece of wood, of a finger's length, burnt at both ends, reckoned an infallible amulet against witchcraft.

Their krosses or mantles hang over their shoulders, and are worn open or closed according to the season. The krosses of the most opulent are formed of tiger or wild cat skins; those of the common people are sheep skins. In winter, the hairy side is worn inwards, and in summer, outwards. These form their beds during the night; and when they die, they are wrapped up and interred in them.

They generally wear three ivory rings on the left arm, formed of elephant's teeth, and fitted with such art and exactness, as cannot be surpassed in Europe. These rings or bracelets serve as guards, when they fight against an enemy; and when they travel, they fasten their provision bag to them, which is so adapted as to be scarcely an incumbrance.

From their waists is suspended what they call a kull-cross, a square piece of the skin of some wild beast, tied on with the hairy side outwards. When they drive their herds to pasture, they equip themselves in a kind of leather stockings, to secure their legs from being lacerated by briars and thorns. In passing over rocks and sands, they put on sandals, cut out of the raw hide of an ox or an elephant; each consisting of only one piece, turning up about half an inch round the foot, with the hairy side outermost, and fastened on with thongs.

The women always appear in caps of skins, pointing spirally from the crown of the head. They generally wear two krosses round their shoulders, which, like those of the men, are

backs, and sometimes depend to their hams. en these krosses they fasten their infants, he head just peeping over their shoulders. nder kross serves to prevent their bodies being fretted by their burden. About their s tied a string, to which is fastened a leather which is constantly worn from morning till both at home and abroad; it contains some of food, a pipe, tobacco, and other neces-

girls, till they arrive at the age of puberty, ulrushes tied in rings round their legs, from ees downwards. These fillets are then laid and their place is supplied with rings of the ess of a little finger, made of slips of sheep skin, from which the hair is singed: for it e observed, that the Hottentot sheep have g like wool. Some of the women have a hundred of these rings upon each leg, so ly joined; and so nicely fitted to each other, ey exhibit the appearance of elegant turn- They are perfectly smooth, and as hard as and in dancing make a clattering noise. ers of leather or rushes about the ankles t these rings from slipping over their heels; the women are daily obliged to walk bushes and brambles, to gather roots and rticles for food, these preserve their legs cing wounded. These fillets are also one distinction of sex, forming a principal female nt; and in case of a scarcity of provisions, e a * resource always at hand.

grand articles of finery among both sexes ss buttons, and plates of the same metal,

almost famished with hunger, they pull off those s, bruise them between two stones and eat them.

which they buy of the Dutch, and then polish up
... lustre, and fix in their hair. They a
likewise fond of bits of looking glasses, which th
likewise fasten to their hair, and consider as v
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their foreheads, where, being incorporated
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authors have represented the Hottentots
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destitute of any sense of religion, or of any
of order or decency. By such writers,
ve been depicted as scarcely possessing the
limpse of reason or humanity; but this cha-
is far from being true. Many of them un-
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egree of perfection; and Mr. Kolben tells
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are perhaps the most faithful servants in

which they buy of the Dutch, and then polish to an astonishing lustre, and fix in their hair. They are likewise fond of bits of looking glasses, which they likewise fasten to their hair, and consider as very splendid ornaments. Diamonds are not more admired and esteemed in Europe, than these trinkets in the Hottentot nations.

They also wear small ear-rings made of brass wire, which they always polish very neatly; and to those rings the more opulent hang bits of mother of pearl, to which they have the art of giving a curious shape and polish. Of such advantages, in point of ornament, they are extremely proud; for when thus adorned, they imagine they cannot fail to attract the notice of all spectators.

To their commerce with the Europeans, they also owe several other personal ornaments, such as brass and glass beads, of which they are extravagantly fond. Scarcely a Hottentot, of either sex, can be met with, who is not decorated with some of them. But the preference is usually given to brass beads, because they are more durable, and less exposed to accidents. These are worn in necklaces, bracelets, and girdles, of which every person has more or fewer, according to his circumstances. Almost every part of the body is covered with some of these ornaments, for which they will part with their cattle freely. If they serve the Europeans, they always stipulate for some ear-rings, in part of wages, if they are not already provided.

It is an invariable custom among the men, to wear bladders of the wild beasts they have killed, *blown up* and fastened to their hair; which are

nsidered as ornaments of dress and trophies
ess.

ith all this finery, the men do not reckon
ves completely dressed, unless their hair
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dges, to understand and speak them with
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are perhaps the most faithful servants

the universe; and so fond are the Europeans of them in that capacity, that they seldom discharge or part with them, without regret. Though extremely addicted to wine, brandy, and tobacco, and ready to purchase them at the expence of all that is most valuable to them, they will neither themselves make free with those commodities, when committed to their trust, nor suffer others to do it.

Indeed, it is surprising to observe the care and fidelity which they display on these occasions. And so high is their character, for integrity, that they are sometimes employed in affairs that require judgment and capacity. A Hottentot, named Cloas, had such honour and discernment, that he was often entrusted by the governor at the Cape, with large quantities of wine, brandy, rice, and other commodities; and employed in exchanging them for cattle, among the remote tribes of his countrymen, attended only by a guard of two armed men. He generally executed his commissions with address and reputation, and returned the governor cattle, in quality and value, superior to what might have been expected. To these qualities he joined the greatest humanity and good nature; and notwithstanding the ignorance in which he was born, and in which, as far as respected religion, he always lived, his morals were most excellent, and his charity and benevolence equal to those of the best men who act on religious principles. Many an European in distress has been relieved by this generous, good-hearted creature; who, by means of a handsome flock of cattle, in which the wealth of *the Hottentots* chiefly consists, was well able to *follow the* amiable bias of his heart, in doing *good.*

must however be confessed, that the Hotten-
seem to place their whole earthly happiness in
and indolence. They are capable of reflec-
, when they please to exert their powers; but
hate the trouble of thought, and look on every
cise of the reasoning faculty as a tormenting
ation of the mind. They therefore banish co-
ion, except when some pressing want is to be
ved, or some danger obviated. If the Hotten-
s not roused by some present appetite or neces-
, he remains as listless as a log; but when
d by these, he is all activity. Having obtain-
he gratification solicited, he relaxes again into
native indolence, till some new stimulus excites
dormant faculties.

t has been said, that all the Hottentots, without
inction, devour the entrails of beasts with all
r original filth, only half broiled; and that,
ether fresh or putrid, they consider them as
choicest delicacies; but this is an exaggera-
. Our author always found, that, when they
nded to feast on entrails, they turned and
pped them of their filth, and washed them in
n water. They then boiled them in the blood
he beast, if it were to be procured; if not, they
e them a thorough broiling. This, however,
one in such an uncleanly manner, as must be
y disgustful to an European.

The provisions of the Hottentots however, con-
not only of the flesh and entrails of cattle, and
ertain wild beasts, but of fruit and roots. They
lom kill any cattle for their own eating, except
n solemn occasions; but, like the Chinese, eat
e that die naturally. The women furnish
r table with fruit, roots, and milk; and when
are not contented with these, they go a hunt-

ing; or, if they live near the sea, a fishing. They have no set time for their meals, but eat as humour or appetite invites. It is remarkable that they carefully abstain from certain provisions; that swine's flesh and fish that have no scales, are forbidden to both sexes. The eating of hares and rabbits is forbidden to the men, but not to the women. The blood of beasts, and the flesh of the mole, are forbidden to the women, but not to the men. When among themselves, they never eat salt, nor season their provisions with any kind of spice; and though they are fond of the high-seasoned food of the Europeans, they find by experience that it is very prejudicial to them.

Both the men and women are so extravagantly fond of smoking tobacco, that, when they have no other means of procuring it, they will perform a hard day's work for half an ounce; and, when they get it, will hug it in a transport of joy. They will, therefore, never enter into the service of an European, except tobacco be made a part of their wages; and they always insist upon having a certain allowance of it every day; but, if the quantity agreed upon be only one day withheld from them, they become intractable, and, upon receiving the same treatment the day after, demand their other wages, and appear very unwilling to strike another stroke for such a master. The Hottentots are likewise extremely fond of a plant called dacha, which they say banishes care and anxiety, like wine and brandy, inspiring them with a thousand delightful fancies; and this they frequently smoke, mixed with tobacco. They have also a root called *kanna, which* is so highly esteemed for its great *virtues, that they* almost adore it; and its value is *enhanced by its* scarcity. They consider it as the

t chearer of the spirits, and the noblest re-
l in the world; and any of them will run
miles, upon an errand, for a small bit of it.
e informed by Mr. Kolben, that he distribut-
t of this root, no bigger than his finger, in
lips, to several Hottentot families, and so
their affections by these little presents, that,
at time till the period of his departure, they
all opportunities to oblige him.

it chiefly renders the Hottentots a nasty
s a custom observed from their earliest
of besmearing their bodies and apparel, with
fat, marrow, or butter, mixed with the soot
collects round their boiling pots. This
hem a blacker hue; for they are naturally
live colour; and the same process is repeat-
ften as the grease is dried up by the sun or
they are able to procure either fat or but-

meaner sort are obliged to content them-
with what is become rancid; but the more
t besmear themselves with the freshest and
t unctuous substances that can be procured.
t of the body, from the crown of the head to
e of the foot, escapes this paint; and their
re entirely saturated with it. The richer
e, the more fat and butter they employ; for
eral application of this unction constitutes
nd distinction between the poor and the

rubbing and greasing promotes the supple-
d activity of the body; and the Hotten-
ugh a lazy race, are perhaps the fleetest in
ld; for, they not only dart away from the
European, but frequently outrun a very

fleet horse. Besides, living almost in a state of entire nakedness, under a hot climate, this practice of closing their pores with grease, prevents that excessive perspiration, which might otherwise exhaust and destroy them.

Each of the Hottentot tribes has a chief, whose office is to command the army; and without whose concurrence they can neither make peace nor declare war. This office is hereditary; but he is not permitted to enter upon its exercise till he has solemnly engaged in a national assembly not to attempt the subversion of the old form of government.

Anciently, the chief was distinguished only by the beauty of the skins of which his krosses were composed; but the Dutch, soon after their establishment at the Cape, made a present of a brass crown to the superior of every nation in alliance with them, which they have since worn on solemn occasions. However, in time of peace, the chief has little else to do but to govern the kraal, or village, where he fixes his residence.

The captain of a kraal preserves the public peace, and administers justice; and from his sentence lies no appeal. State criminals, however, are tried by a chief, assisted by the captains of kraals. In time of war, the captain commands the troops of his village, under the chief of the nation. His office is also hereditary, though, as in the former instance, he cannot execute it till he has solemnly pledged himself, in presence of the people, not to alter or deviate from the ancient laws and institutions of the kraal. These functionaries were likewise originally distinguished only by the fineness of their furs, which were

ose of tigers or wild cats; but all of them have ow a cane, with a brass head, given them by the utch; which badge of dighity descends with e office. Neither the chiefs of the nations, or these captains, have any revenue from the ublic, or any perquisite attending the execution f their office: honour is their only stimulus and ward.

The captain of a kraal decides all disputes of ght and property, and tries and punishes for urder, theft, adultery, and other crimes com- itted within his jurisdiction, being assisted by l the men of the kraal. Whenever a dispute bout property arises, the captain summons all e men of the kraal into the open field, where ey squat down in a circle. The plaintiff and de- ndant plead their own causes, and the wit- esses on both sides are heard. The depositions eing finished, the captain, after some debate, ollects the voices, and immediately pronounces e decree according to the majority; when full nd quiet possession is instantly given to the party whose favour the decree passes.

The principal criminal matters which employ e kraal courts are murder, robbery, and adul- ry; for the latter is punished with death. When a Hottentot is known or suspected to have ommitted any of these crimes, notice is given o all the men of his kraal who, considering them- elves as officers of justice, keep a sharp look out, n order to seize the accused; and it is in vain for im to think of finding sanctuary in any other ribe; as he would infallibly be taken up for a ugitive or a spy.

The criminal being apprehended, he is secured, ll the men of the kraal can assemble, which is

done with as much expedition as possible. The court sitting squat upon their hams, in a circle, the prisoner is placed in the centre; for the Hottentots remark, that in an affair where a man's life is at stake, he ought to have the best situation for hearing and being heard.

The prisoner having taken his place, the charge against him is pronounced by the prosecutor; and then the prosecutor's witnesses give their evidence. Next the prisoner makes his defence, calling his own witnesses to corroborate his testimony who are heard with the utmost indulgence.

The captain then, after some debates on the evidence, collects the voices; a majority of which either acquits or condemns. If the prisoner be acquitted, the court assigns him damages out of the prosecutor's cattle, but if he be convicted, and judged worthy of death, sentence is immediately pronounced; the court rises; and after a momentary silence the captain flies at the prisoner, and with one blow on the head, with his kirri, lays him sprawling on the ground. This is seconded by the rest, who rush forwards and striking with all their might, the criminal instantly expires. Then bending the corpse neck and heels, they wrap it up in its kross, and bury it with every article of ornament or apparel, except the brass decorations which are given to the family or heir; who suffer nothing either in name, privilege, or property. The relations, and friends of the criminal are treated with the same respect as before; and every thing proceeds as if no such misfortune had befallen them.

By a singular refinement of policy among this *rude people*, all their riches descend to the eldest

or, when a son is wanting, to the next
relation; and the younger sons of a Hot-
, who are at home and unprovided for at the
of the father, are at the courtesy of the
, both with respect to fortune and liberty.
rriage between first and second cousins is
den, and punished by being cudgelled to
; yet a Hottentot may have as many wives
is able to maintain, though the richest sel-
engross more than three. A man may have a
ce from his wife, and a woman from her
nd, on showing such cause as shall appear
ctory to the men of the kraal. But one of
ost singular of their laws is, that a widow,
very husband she marries after the first, is
d to cut off the joint of a finger; which she
nts to her new husband on the wedding day,
ning at one of the little fingers first.
e Hottentots are blessed in an exemption
lawyers, and the only public functionaries,
es those already enumerated, are the physi-
and the priest. In every village there is a
cian, and the large ones have two, who pos-
smattering of botany, surgery, and medi-
They are chosen out of the sages of each
and appointed to superintend the health of
habitants. This they perform without fee
ward; the honour of the employment being
ed a sufficient recompence for their trouble
ttention.
ese men suffer no one to see them gather
prepare their remedies; for all their compo-
s are kept a profound secret; and if a pa-
happens to die under their hands, they con-
y affirm, that all their medicines were
d ineffecacious by the effects of witchcraft.

At the Cape, the priest is a subordinate character to the physician. His office is also elective; but his duty neither obliges him to pray for the people, nor to instruct them in religious matters. He only presides at their sacrifices, and has the ordering of all their ceremonies.

As the chief of a Hottentot nation presides over the captains of kraals, so the Hottentots call the Supreme Being the great Captain. They believe him to be the Creator of all things, the Governor of the world, and that he is endowed with unsearchable perfections. The common appellation is Gounja Tiquoa, the God of all gods. They say that he is a good Being, who does no body any harm; and that he dwells far above the moon; but it does not appear that they address any act of devotion immediately to him. Their religious adorations are paid to what they call inferior deities, dependant on him: for the most intelligent of the natives, when they are in a humour to answer interrogatories on this subject, say, that their first parents so grievously offended the God of gods, that he cursed them with hardness of heart; therefore, they know little of him, and have still less inclination to serve him.

The moon is reckoned an inferior visible deity. They call this planet likewise Gounja, or God, and say that it is the subject and representative of the High and Invisible. They assemble for the celebration of its worship at the change and full, and no inclemency of the weather prevents this act of devotion. They then throw their bodies into a thousand different postures, scream, prostrate themselves on the ground, jump suddenly, stamp as if distracted, and cry aloud, "I salute thee; thou art welcome; grant us health

cattle, and milk in abundance." These
r apostrophes to the moon they repeat
times singing Ho, ho, ho, many times,
ariation of notes, accompanied with clap-
hands. Thus they spend the whole night
ipping this planet, which they consider
ler and dispenser of the weather.
likewise adore, as a benign deity, a cer-
ct, said to be peculiar to the Hottentot
s. It is of the size of a child's little
the back is green, and the belly speckled
l and white. It has two wings, and two
its head.
ever this insect appears, they pay it the
tokens of veneration; and if it honours
with a visit, the inhabitants assemble
in transports of devotion. They sing
ce, troop after troop, in extasies, throw-
it the powder of buchu, with which
er the area of the kraal, and the tops of
a. They likewise kill two fat sheep as an
of gratitude, for this distinguished honour;
y all their past offences are then buried in

s divine insect happen to light upon a
ot, he is considered as a man without
nd ever after revered as a saint. The
ox is immediately killed for a thank-of-
nd eaten in honour of the deity and the
The latter feasts alone on the entrails,
re boiled; while the men devour the
ssed in a similar manner, and the women
led with the broth. The fat is very
preserved to anoint the body and appa-
saint: and while it lasts, it is exclusively
this purpose.

But the most singular part of the ceremony is, that the caul of the ox, well powdered with buchu, and twisted like a rope, is tied round his neck; and he is obliged to wear it day and night till it rots off, or till the insect, at a subsequent visit, lights on some other inhabitant of the kraal, when the first is at liberty to remove it. The case is the same, if the insect light on a woman: she instantly commences a saint with the same ceremonies: but here only the women feast on the meat, while the men are regaled with the broth.

These simple people will run any hazard to procure the safety of this animal. A German, who had a country seat about six miles from the fort, having given leave to some Hottentots to turn their cattle upon his domain, they removed to the place with their kraal. A son of this gentleman was amusing himself among them, when the deified insect appeared. The Hottentots flew tumultuously to adore it, while the youth ran to catch it, to observe the effects such a capture would produce. He seized it in the midst of them: but how great was the general cry and agony, when they saw it in his hand! They stared at him, and at each other, with looks of distraction. "See, see," cried they, "what is he going to do with it? will he kill it, will he kill it?" Meanwhile every nerve quivered with fear. Observing their distress, he asked them why they were in such agonies for that paltry insect? "Ah! Sir," replied they, with the utmost concern, "it is a divinity—it is come from *heaven*—it is come on a good design. Ah! do *not hurt it*: do not offend it. If you do, we *shall be* the most miserable wretches on earth.

round will lie under a curse, and the crime
ver be forgiven."

young gentleman pretended to be unmoved
r petitions, and seemed as if he intended
n or destroy it. On this they started and
out like frantic people; asking where was
nscience? and how he dared to think of
rating a crime, that would bring down
head all the vengeance and thunders of
?

e expostulations being likewise ineffec-
ey fell prostrate on the ground, and with
ng eyes, and loud bewailings, besought
spare the object of their adoration,
give it liberty. The young man now
, and let the insect fly; on which they
d and shouted in a transport of joy, and
g after it, paid it the customary veneration.

Hottentots also pay a kind of religious
p to their deceased saints and men of re-
whom they honour, not with tombs,
, or inscriptions, but by consecrating woods,
ins, fields, and rivers, to their memory;
ese places they never pass without ex-
ns of regard.

y likewise worship an evil deity, whom
nsider as the father of mischief, and the
of all their afflictions. Him they term
oa, and say, he is a little, ill-tempered, in-
aptain, whose malice will seldom permit
rest; and, therefore, they pay him ho-
n order to avert it, and wheedle him into
mour, by the occasional sacrifice of an ox
eep.

seem to have a general belief in the im-
of the soul, and therefore, upon the

death of any person, they remove their kraals to a new settlement; from an opinion, that the dead never haunt any place but that in which they died, unless any thing pertaining to them be carried out of it, and then they imagine, that the departed spirits will follow a kraal, and be very troublesome. Impressed with this idea, they abandon the huts in which their friends have died; and all the utensils belonging to the deceased are left untouched.

Such, says Mr. Kolben, is the absurd system of the Hottentot religion, to which they are so much attached, that I never heard of one of them dying a Christian. Though the Dutch have sent missionaries among them, who have undergone numberless fatigues, and taken incredible pains to make converts, it was without effect; and they were compelled, with sorrow, to abandon the generous design, without leaving the least trace of their labours on the minds of the Hottentots. Of this the following incident may serve as a confirmation.

Mr. Vander Stel, governor of the Cape, took an infant Hottentot, whom he educated in the knowledge of Christianity, and according to the polished manners of Europeans; allowing him little or no intercourse with his countrymen. He became well versed in the mysteries of religion and in several languages. He was always handsomely dressed, and his manners were formed after the best European models at the Cape.

The governor, seeing him thus qualified, entertained great hopes of him, and sent him with a commissary general to the Indies, where he remained employed till the death of the governor he served; when he returned to his original

on. A few days after, at a visit among his re-
tions, he stripped himself of his European ap-
arel, and equipped himself in the habit of his
ountry. This done, he packed up his former
lothes, ran with them to the governor's, and
resenting himself before his patron, laid the
undle at his feet, and addressed his excellency
the following purport: "Be pleased, Sir, to
ke notice, that I for ever renounce this apparel;
likewise, for ever, renounce the Christian reli-
ion. It is my design to live and to die in the
ith of my fathers, and in conformity to their
ustoms and manners. I shall only beg you will
rant me, and I am sure you will not refuse it,
e collar and hanger I wear. These I shall keep
r your sake."

Here he stopped; and turning his back, fled
viftly away, and never was more seen in that
uarter. This man I frequently conversed with
the country, and found, to my amazement,
at he had a surprising stock of Christian know-
dge. But though I made use of the most per-
asive and endearing arguments to call him
ack into the fold of Christ, he continued deaf to
l my reasoning and remonstrances.

Since Mr. Kolben wrote the above remarks,
owever, great numbers of the Hottentots have
mbraced the glorious doctrines of Christianity;
nd in consequence of their conversion, have been
duced to lay aside many of those filthy and bar-
rous practices, which formerly constituted the
ost striking features of their character. Mr.
arrow informs us, that "after a night of undis-
rbed repose, at the Bavian's Kloof, he was awa-
ned by some melodious sounds which proceeded
m a group of female Hottentots, who were

neatly dressed in printed cotton gowns, and assembled to chaunt their morning hymn. The ministers were three in number, of modest manners, humble deportment, and unaffected piety; lively and intelligent in conversation, they readily answered every question that was asked them; and cheerfully welcomed the travellers to their habitations, which were equally remarkable for cleanliness and simplicity. Their church is a plain, neat building; their mill superior to any other in the colony; and their garden abundantly stocked with useful vegetables.

"Through the unremitting exertions of these men, six hundred Hottentots have been already united in one Society; they have been instructed in different trades, and live very comfortably in some little huts that are sprinkled over the valley; from whence they occasionally hire themselves out to the neighbouring peasants, or employ themselves at home in such avocations as are most congenial to their own inclinations, and best adapted for the subsistence of their families.

"On Sundays they regularly attend their public devotions, when their apparel is remarkably clean, and their behaviour unfeignedly devout. The voices of the females are tolerably harmonious, and their style of singing is extremely sweet and plaintive."—It is necessary to observe, in addition to this account, that other missionaries, besides the Moravians, have been recently blessed with great success, in attempting to diffuse the glad tidings of the gospel among the Hottentots: and three of the converts, (one man and two women) have *lately* appeared at several places of worship in *London*, where they are said to have made a full and honourable confession of the Christian faith.

shall now take a cursory view of those an- ceremonies which partake of a religious na- and first for the marriage of the Hottentots. chelor or a widower be inclined to marry, he es his intentions to his father; or if he be to his next of kin; who, if he consents, at- him to the female's relations; whom they re- with a pipe or two of tobacco, or of dachu, they all smoke.

father of the lover then opens the business woman's father, which having heard, he ge- retires to consult his wife, and soon returns final answer, which is seldom unfavourable. wever, the lover's father receives a denial, g more is said; and the enamorato at once he object from his heart, and looks out for r. If his wish is complied with, the lover two or three fat oxen from his own herd, or ther's, and drives them to the house from he is to receive his destined bride; accom- by all his relations of both sexes, who can niently attend.

kindred of the woman receive them with es: the oxen are immediately slain, and the company besmear their bodies with the fat, en powder themselves, from head to foot, uchu; while the women spot their faces ed earth, as already described. The men uat down in a circle, in the centre of which ridegroom, in the same attitude; while the n form another circle, at some distance, round m.

being done, the priest of the kraal, enter- circle of the men, first urines the bride- which effusion he rubs in with eager plea- The priest then advancing to the other

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bled to chaunt their morning hym
were three in number; of modest
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telligent in conversation; they re
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to the neighbouring peasants, or
selves at home in such avocations
genial to their own inclinations, an
for the subsistence of their families.

"On Sundays they regularly att
devotions, when their apparel is re
and their behaviour unfeignedly
voices of the females are tolerably
and their style of singing is extreme
plaintive."—It is necessary to obser
to this account, that other missionari
Moravians, have been recently ble
success, in attempting to diffuse th
of the gospel among the Hottentot
the converts, (one man and two
lately appeared at several place
London, where they are said to
and honourable confession of the

hunting or fishing. The
attending the cattle.
the parents give a solemn
ving, of which all the in-
rtake. The birth, how-
lways attended with supe-
y. Then the parents slay
the entertainment of the
auspicious occasion, they
tulations of all their neigh-

the woman is brought to
re both boys, they kill two
inhabitants of the village
as a very great blessing.
cluded from the entertain-
lied with some of the fat to

are females, there is little
the sacrifice they make, at
exceed a couple of sheep.
y frequently give the lie to
by a cruel custom, which,
l by other nations, is repug-
of reason, and every senti-
the parents are poor, or the
n is unable to suckle both
inary of the two is buried
the kraal, cast among the
back to the under bough of a
to starve, or to be devoured
rey.

infant is sometimes found by
if it be dead, he generally
ve, he always takes it home;
d it up himself, he always

finds some person who is disposed to perform this charitable office. Such adopted children receive a good education; and great care is taken to instruct them thoroughly in the knowledge of Christianity, and to secure them from falling off to the filthy and idolatrous customs of the Hottentots; but these generous labours have seldom produced any lasting effect; for these unhappy females, no sooner arrive at years of maturity, than flying to their own people, they renounce the principles with which they have been imbued, and the dress to which they have been accustomed; and return to the religion and customs of their ancestors.

Youths under the age of eighteen, are confined to the tuition of their mothers, and live entirely with them, but after that time an act of legitimation completes their claim to manhood. When the father, or the generality of the men of a kraal, resolve to call a young man into their society, all the inhabitants assemble in the middle of the village, and form a circle on the ground. The young fellow to be admitted, being without the circle, is desired to squat down on his hams; and then the senior in the circle rises, and asks, whether the youth without shall be admitted into their society, and made a man? To this all answering in the affirmative, he leaves the circle, and stepping up to the novice, informs him, that the men have thought him worthy to be admitted into their society, and he is now to take an eternal farewel of his mother, the nursery, and all his puerile pursuits; and that if he is ever seen talking to his mother, and does not studiously avoid her company, he will *be again* considered as a child, and excluded the conversation and society of men: in short, that all his thoughts, words, and actions must now be ma-

s is repeated, till the sage thinks his admo-
re sufficiently impressed on the mind of

outh having previously well daubed him-
fat and soot, the old man urines him,
e initiated receives with joy, rubbing in
with a quickness of action, expressive of
action at the honour which is done him.
then gives him this benediction: "Good
attend thee. Live to old age. Increase
iply. May thy beard soon grow." The
then solemnly proclaimed a man; and all
assembled feast on a sheep, partly roasted,
iled.

a young man, after this initiation, be seen
d drinking with the women, he is expos-
e utmost contempt: he becomes the jest
sion of the whole kraal, and is excluded
society of the men, till the ceremony be
d anew.

freed from the care of his mother, a Hot-
ay, without any stigma, be so brutal and
as to cudgel her, to show his independ-
nd it is common, on his admission at
go and abuse her with insulting lan-
a testimony of the sincerity of his conver-
of his resolution to follow the advice he
ived.

ave already observed, that some of the
ts enjoy an honourable kind of distinc-
wearing bladders tied to their hair as
of their valour. Such as have singly en-
d and slain a lion, a tiger, a leopard, an
, a rhinoceros, or an elk, are regarded as
A person who has achieved this, on his
me, squats down; and is soon visited by

one of the sages of the kraal, to thank and congratulate him on so beneficial an exploit; and to acquaint him, that the men of the kraal expect him immediately to receive from their hands the honours which are his due.

The hero rising, attends the messenger to the middle of the kraal, where all the men wait for him, and squatting down on a spread mat, all the men encircle him, while the hero's face is flushed with joy. The deputy then marches up to the new hero, and compliments him with a natural stream, accompanied with some mysterious words. The person thus honoured, as on other occasions, rubs in the fluid with the greatest eagerness.

This done, the deputy lights his pipe, and having taken two or three whiffs, hands it round till it is smoked quite out. He then takes the remaining ashes, and shakes them upon the hero, who rubs them into the encrusting fat, careful not to lose a single particle of them. The assembly then rises up, and every one congratulates him on the signal honour he has received, and thanks him for the service he has rendered to his country. The hero now considers himself as exalted to the highest summit of human glory; and by the bladder of the beast he has killed and fastened to his hair, and the majestic port he ever after assumes, demands the homage and respect which the institutions of his countrymen annex to this dignity.

The destruction of no wild beast diffuses so much joy over a kraal as that of the tiger. The Hottentots have an amazing predilection for the *flesh*; and Mr. Kolben affirms that he, himself, *found it to* be most delicious food, and far superior to veal.

last ceremonies attending a private per-
e those which have a reference to his death
pulture. A Hottentot man or woman, in
onies of dissolution, is surrounded by the
and relations, who set up a terrible howl.
breath, however, is no sooner out of the
than they join in so horrid a chorus of
s, yells, roarings and clapping of hands,
is almost impossible for a European to stay
hearing.

corpse is instantly wrapped up, neck and
together, in the kross, so closely, that not
ast part of it remains uncovered. About
urs after death, the funeral obsequies take

When the corpse is ready to be brought
l the men and women of the village, ex-
uch as are immediately engaged in the me-
ly rites, assemble before the door of the
and squatting in two circles, the men in
nd the women in another, they clap their
, exclaiming, in doleful accents, "Bo! bo!
r Father! father! father!"

covering being removed, the corpse is
ht out from the back part of the hut, for it
ot be taken out at the door. The bearers
minated by the captain of the kraal, or by
lations of the deceased, who is carried in
arms: when brought out, the circles, be-
he door rise and attend the corpse to the
, the men and women, in separate bodies,
way wringing their hands, shouting and
g themselves into such ridiculous attitudes,
t is difficult for an European to be present,
reserve his gravity.

ving put the corpse into the grave, which
erally the cliff of a rock, or the recess of

some wild beast, they fill up the place with the mould of ant-hills, that it may be the sooner consumed; and cram stones and pieces of wood in with it, to prevent the body from being devoured by wild beasts.

This performed, they return to the kraal, and again forming two circles, renew their lamentations for about the space of an hour, till the word being given for silence, two old men, the friends or relations of the deceased, enter each circle, and sparingly dispense their water among them, that every person may have some, which is, as usual, rubbed in with eagerness and veneration.

After this ceremony, which constitutes a part of all their solemnities, each steps into the hut, and, taking up a handful of ashes from the hearth, comes out by the passage formed for the corpse, and strews the ashes, by little and little, over the company. This, they say, is done to humble their pride; to banish all notions of distinction; and to show them, that old and young, rich and poor, the weak and strong, the beautiful and the ordinary, will all be alike, and reduced to dust and ashes.

If the deceased had any cattle, the heir now kills a sheep, and some of his nearest relations, if they can afford it, do the same, for the entertainment of the kraal. The caul of the sheep, killed by the heir, is well powdered with bucku, and put about his neck; which appendage he is obliged to wear till it rots off. Some one of the other relations wear likewise the caul of the sheep they kill in the same manner. These cauls are badges of mourning, which the rich Hottentots put on for the dead. But if the relations of the deceased are poor, and cannot af-

any cattle for the entertainment of their
, they shave their heads in narrow slips,
tely leaving a strip of hair, which likewise
s mourning.

horrid custom remains to be particula-
When persons of either sex become su-
uated, or, in short, unable to perform the
fice for themselves, they are then, by the
t of the kraal, placed in a solitary hut, at
derable distance, with a small stock of pro-
within their reach; where they are left to
hunger, or to be devoured by the wild
Barbarous as this custom is, they consider
n act of mercy; and are filled with asto-
nt, when they hear it reprobated by
ans. It must, however, be confessed,
ey never practise this dreadful desertion
aged, till life is absolutely a burden.
the old are capable of any act of huma-
hey are treated with the tenderest atten-
nd care is taken to relieve the burden of
ears.

Hottentots have also some ceremonies of
ral concern: upon the overthrow of an
; on any considerable slaughter of wild
: on the removal of a kraal, when the pas-
out it becomes too scanty for the support
cattle; when an inhabitant dies in it,
r a natural or accidental death; or to
ate the Deity, when any distemper affects
heep.

n they design a public entertainment, they
sort of booth in the centre of the kraal,
nt to entertain all the men commodiously,
terials are wholly new, as an emblem of
tention of commencing a new life. On the

morning of the day appointed for the celebration of the solemnity, the women and children of the kraal collect the most beautiful and odoriferous herbs, flowers, and boughs, with which they adorn the booth or arbour. The men then kill the fattest bullock, part of which is boiled and part roasted. This the males feast on in the booth, while the women are obliged to be satisfied with the broth.

After the repast, they commence smoking and dancing, while a band of music, composed of a kind of flutes formed of reeds, and a sort of drum, strikes up at intervals. Some sing, others joke, and mirth triumphs in peals of laughter. But though they are immoderately fond of strong liquor, little or any is seen in these solemnities, which are generally prolonged to a late hour.

When they resolve to remove a kraal, on account of a deficiency of pasture, they kill a fat sheep, on which the men feast, while the women have the usual regale of broth. The banquet is conducted with much hilarity and good humour, and is considered as a thank-offering for the bounties of nature enjoyed in that place.

This finished, they demolish their huts, pack up their furniture, and remove at once, the men in one body, and the women in another, to the place marked out for a new settlement; where being arrived, in a very short space of time, they erect a new kraal, and dispose of their furniture. A sheep is then killed, by the women, and dressed as before; but they now enjoy the flesh themselves, and send the broth to the men. Having anointed their krosses with the fat, and powdered their hair with buchu, they begin several

ersions among themselves, and continue them
l the night is far spent. The sheep is here
nsidered as a sacrifice; and the unctions and
owderings as religious formalities for the pros-
erity of the kraal, and the continuance of plenty
the station they have chosen.

When a difference happens between a man and
s wife, it is soon accommodated: all the neigh-
ours instantly interpose, and the quarrel, is at an
id. The Hottentots, indeed, run to the suppres-
on of strife, when it has invaded a family, the
me as we do to extinguish a fire; and allow
emselves no repose till every matter in dispute
adjusted.

The last public ceremony we shall mention, is
e propitiatory offering for a disease among their
eep, which lasts three days. On each of these
lemnities, the old men assemble by themselves
id feast on the fat sheep; while the young men,
a distance, eat the entrails, and the women
id children are regaled with the broth of the
rt that is boiled. The feast being over, they
end the remainder of each day in singing and
ncing.

The cattle belonging to the same kraal graze
common; and the meanest inhabitant, who has
t a single sheep, has the privilege of turning it
to the flock, where it meets with the same
re as if it belonged to the richest and most
owerful person of the kraal. They have no
rticular herdsmen or shepherds for driving their
ttle to the pasture, and guarding them from
ild beasts. This office is born by turns, three
four of them in company: the women milking
e cows morning and evening.

Between five and six in the evening, they re-

nerally drive their cattle home. In the area of the kraal they lodge the calves and all the small cattle; and on the outside range the great cattle, tying two and two together by the feet. These in the night are guarded by dogs, of which every kraal has one or two.

The Hottentots have a kind of fighting oxen, which they call backeleyers, used in their wars, as elephants are in some other nations. These gore, kick, and trample the enemy to death with incredible fury. Of these, each army has a drove, which they mutually turn on one another. The courage of these creatures is astonishing; and the discipline on which they are formed reflects no small honour on the Hottentot genius and dexterity.

These animals are also of great service to them in the government of the herds at pasture; for, upon a signal given, they will fetch in the stragglers. Every kraal has at least half a dozen of these oxen; and when one of them dies or grows too old for service, the most stately young ox is selected from the herd, and taught to succeed him.

The backeleyers know every inhabitant of the kraal: but if a stranger, especially an European, approaches the herd, without being accompanied by a Hottentot of the kraal to which they belong, they make at him full gallop; and if he is not within hearing of some of the herdsmen, or can climb up a tree, or act on the defensive by fire arms, his destruction is inevitable. But they no sooner hear the whistling of the keepers *through* their fingers, or the report of a pistol, *than they* return peaceably to the herds.

The arrows of the Hottentots consist of a small

apering stick or cane, of about a foot and a half length, pointed with a small thin piece of iron arded and joined to the stick or cane by a barrel. heir bows are made of olive or iron-wood; and ie strings, of the sinews or entrails of beasts, stened to a strong wooden or iron hook at each xtremity of the bow. The quiver is a long nar- ow bag, formed of the skin of an ox, elk, or ele- hant, and slung over the shoulder by an append- d strap; but to the upper end of the quiver is xed a hook, on which the bow is hung, when hey go to war or to the chace.

They have another offensive weapon, called the assagay, which is a kind of half pike. The haft is a long taper stick, armed at the thickest nd with a thin iron plate. It tapers to a point, nd is very sharp on the edges. The rackum- ick is a sort of dart, little more than a foot long, ade of some hard wood.

In the use of these weapons, the Hottentots how such quickness of eye and certainty of aim, s perhaps no other people possess. They do ot halt like Europeans to take their aim, but kip from side to side, and brandish and whirl ie weapon about in such a manner, that the hole might be regarded as an idle flourish; ut on a sudden, it reaches the mark. Their exterity on these occasions almost exceeds cre- ibility.

No people are more courageous or expert hun- ers; and on taking and killing the most fero- ious animals, they display equal art and agility. hey are likewise very dexterous swimmers; and his exercise they perform in a manner different *om other nations*; for they beat the water with *eir feet, and* raising themselves erect, paddle

along with their necks and arms above the surface. In this posture they cross deep rivers; and proceed with great velocity in the sea without showing the least apprehension of danger, in the manner which European swimmers call treading the waters; rising and falling with the waves, like so many corks. In fishing, their address and activity are likewise very extraordinary.

But the chief pride of a Hottentot is displayed in hunting and killing wild beasts. When all the men of a kraal are out upon the chace, and discover a wild beast of any magnitude, they endeavour to surround him, which they generally do in a short time, though the beast may endeavour to escape. If they encompass an elephant or a rhinoceros, they attack him with hassagays, the hardness and thickness of his hide securing him against the effects of a shower of arrows. Should they fail to lay him dead on the spot, and he is able to return the attack, they form as wide a ring as they can, to reach him with their hassagays. The creature being wounded, runs with great fury and bellowing against the persons from whom the weapons seemed to proceed; he is attacked in the rear by others: he wheels round to revenge himself on the last assailants, and again his enemies take the advantage. The hassagays multiply on his body: he roars, tears up the ground; and is sometimes covered with a forest of missile weapons before he falls.

When a lion, tiger, or leopard is thus enclosed they attack him both with hassagays and arrows. With eyes darting fire and the wildest rage, he flies on the assailants. Nimble as he is *they are* still more so; and avoid him with astonishing dexterity, till they are relieved by some

ssociates. He takes so quick a bound that
ator trembles for the fate of the person he
; yet the Hottentot eludes his force in the
ng of an eye; and the savage spends his
the ground. He turns and leaps towards
, and another, but still in vain: they
im, quick as thought; and still he fights
ith the air.

this time the hassagays and arrows are
g upon him in the rear: he becomes infu-
ith pain; and running and bounding from
ariant to another, and tumbling from time
, to break the weapons that are fastened
he foams, yells, and roars in the most
s manner.

hing can be more admirable than the ac-
and address with which the Hottentots
the paws of these savage beasts, and the
ible speed and resolution with which they
each other. If the beast be not quickly
hed, he is soon convinced, that it is impos-
oppose such a nimble foe, and in conse-
tries to escape; but his back being by
ne covered with arrows and hassagays,
f which are usually poisoned, he falls and
e ground.

Hottentots, however, do not often engage
hant, a rhinoceros, or an elk after this man-
e elephants going always to water in troops
ne, form a path from their haunts to the
g place. In this track, the Hottentots
t spade or axe, make a hole from six to
eet deep, in the middle of which they fix
g stake, tapering up to a point, nearly of
ght of the pit. This being done, they
e hole with small boughs, leaves, mould,

... of the elephants, their companion, make of while the Hottentots seei ambuscade, issue out of on the neck of the bea his skull with heavy stor veins with their knives. in pieces and carried to tl inhabitants make a feast.

The Boshies-men are a who have derived their na in woody or mountainous veterate enemies to a pasto ing and plunder, and never for the space of one night. render themselves so odiou Cape, that they are freque terminated like the wild b they have assumed. Othe made slaves of.

The weapons of these me

The dwellings of these foes to a pastoral life are not more agreeable than their manners. Like the wild beasts, they usually take up their dwelling in caverns and clifts of the rocks; and some of them are said to be so far worse than brutes, that their soil has been found close by their habitations. A great many of them are entirely naked, but such as have been able to procure the skin of any animal, cover their bodies with it from their shoulders downwards, and they invariably wear it till it drops off their backs in rags.

Ignorant of agriculture, they wander over hills and dales in quest of wild roots, plants, and berries, which they eat raw, to sustain a life that such miserable food would soon extinguish, were they used to better fare. Sometimes their table is composed of several other dishes; such as the larvæ of insects, caterpillars, white ants, grass-hoppers, snakes, and some sort of spiders; yet though the Boshies-men feed in so coarse a manner, they are frequently in want, and famished to such a degree as to waste almost to a shadow. "It was with no small astonishment," says Dr. Sparrman, "that I, for the first time, saw in Lange Kloof, a lad, belonging to this race of men, with his face, arms, legs, and body, so monstrously small and withered, that I could not have been induced to suppose but that he had been brought thus low by the fever that was epidemic in those parts, had I not seen him, at the same time, run very swiftly. It required but a few weeks to bring one of these starvelings to a thriving state, and even to make him fat; their stomachs being strong enough to digest the great quantity of food with which they are crammed, as they may rather be said to bolt than eat."

they contrive to do by prev
selves at some distance r
They then fire a gun or tw
consternation among the
only the most bold among t
rage to break through the
These the assailants are g
easy a rate; being better p
are timorous and struck wit
consequently suffer themse
carried into bondage.

The prisoners, when fir
with considerable lenity, t
termix the fairest promises
endeavour to shoot some
game for their new slaves,
cows, &c. Such agreeable
little tobacco, soon induce
tolerable degree of cheerful
place of abode. There thi

th, together with a few curses and blows; and
for neglect or idleness; which last failure, if
born with him, is at least naturalized in him.
that, both by nature and custom, detesting all
nner of labour, and having always been used
a wandering life, subject to no controul, he
st sensibly feels the galling yoke of oppression.
Under such circumstances, it is no wonder that
Boshies-man attempts to regain his beloved
erty by making his escape; but it is really
onishing that when one of these poor wretches
ns away from his bondage, he never takes any
ng that is not properly his own. "This," says
. Sparrman, "is an instance of moderation in
savages toward their tyrants, which is univer-
ly attested, and at the same time praised and
mired by the colonists themselves; but which I
nnot easily reconcile with what I have learned
the human heart. This far, however, is cer-
n, that none of this species of Hottentots are
ich addicted to violence or revenge. Free
m many wants and desires that torment the
t of mankind, they are but little addicted to
eving, if we except brandy, victuals, and
bacco. It is not improbable, likewise, that the
vantages accruing from a theft may be over-
ked by them, when their thoughts are totally
en up with regaining their liberty, the greatest
all treasures.

It is necessary to observe, that some of the
ld Hottentots who are thus forced into the
vice of the colonists, live in small societies
nceably and quietly in desert tracts, where the
ich farmers cannot easily come at them: these
ople probably originate from Boshies-men, who
e run away from the colonists' service.

Dr. Sparrman observes, that the Boshies-m
n the service of some farmers, are treated in
gentlest manner; live very well with regar
provisions; are well clad, relatively to their
lition in life; and are very comfortably lod
n comparison of what others are, in their
straw cottages. The chief of their busi
consists in tending a herd of cattle, or floc
heep, during the heat of the day; when
ave an opportunity of getting into a gentle
of intoxication by smoking tobacco, a state w
excites in them sensations of as agreeable a nat
s the frenzy produced by opium and spirit
iquors seems to afford to many others. And
hough they may thus agreeably beguile the ot
wise tedious hours of their lives, they gene
un away. The colonists wonder at this
procedure entirely devoid of reason; but i
doing they certainly forget that these poor crea

torn an unfortunate female from the arms of her husband, they endeavour all they can, and that chiefly at night, to deprive her likewise of her infants; for it seems that the mothers can seldom persuade themselves to flee from their tender offspring. The amiable tenderness of the mother, which probably glows with a more lively flame in the breast of this poor heathen than in those of her Christian tyrants, is the very circumstance which is laid hold of to rivet her chains the faster. There are some mothers, indeed, who set themselves free, after having lost all hope of saving their children; but they generally lurk secretly about the neighbourhood, in hopes of finding some opportunity of recovering their beloved infants again.

Mr. Barrow observes, that the Boshies-men, in their persons, are remarkably diminutive, scarcely ever exceeding four feet nine inches in height. They are peculiarly distinguished from the colonial Hottentots by the depression of their noses, the height of their cheek bones, the prominence of their chins, and the formation of their eyes, the rounded lids of which are nearly similar to those of the Chinese. Their bellies are likewise exceedingly protuberant, and their backs hollow; though their limbs are commonly well turned, and their agility is so surprising, that they can leap the precipices of the mountains like the klip-springing antelope, and outstrip the fleetest horse, on rough ground, with the greatest facility.

Notwithstanding their wretched mode of life and the dangers to which they are constantly exposed these poor creatures sometimes indulge in gaiety and hilarity; for when the neighbouring farmers have retired to their habitations, and the moo

forth in unsullied brightness upon the land.
they apparently forget their perils and their
, and usually devote the hours to dancing,
e orient clouds are burnished with the beams
e rising sun. They are likewise extremely
ul at the approach of the first thunder storm
r the winter; for they consider it as a token of
summer's commencement, and express their
light by rending their skin coverings, throwing
em in the air, and dancing for several nights
ccessively.

Their constitutions are much stronger than those
of the colonial Hottentots, and their lives are
usually of longer duration. In every kind of sick-
ness, they cut off the extremities of the fingers,
beginning with the little finger on the left hand,
as the least important. This ridiculous operation
is performed upon a supposition that the effusion
of blood will carry off the disease.

Their funeral customs are nearly similar to those
of the Hottentots, and the graves of their deceased
friends are generally covered with large piles of
stones, which must have required a considerable
degree of labour in the collection, as not a single
stone is to be found naturally, upon the grassy plains
that generally surround their kraals.

The Koraquas are represented by M. Le Vaillant
as much taller than the colonial Hottentots, of
a blacker complexion, and a smaller proportion
of their cheek bones. Their language and customs
are nearly similar to those of the Nimiquas.
their dress is usually composed of the skins of
jackals and hyenas. The skins of the buffalo and
giraffe are too heavy, for the purpose of
parel, and are therefore only used for
the huts.

As springs are very rare on account of the extreme aridity of the soil, the Koraquas have contrived to remedy this defect by digging a number of wells, and covering them with stones and branches of trees in order to preserve them even from the birds. To these wells, the natives descend by a gradual flight of steps; and regularly draw as much every day as is sufficient for the consumption of themselves and their cattle. Instead of a bucket, they use a hollow piece of wood, from which they empty the water into skins that are placed on the ground, in a concave form, for its reception. Yet, notwithstanding these precautions, the wells are often dried up, and the horde is consequently obliged to remove to some other place. This may account for the variety* of customs which are remarkable among the Koraquas; as, in consequence of their itinerant life, they may be naturally expected to adopt the manners of the different nations in whose neighbourhood they occasionly reside.

The Gonaquas are said to differ from other Hottentots in a nobler air, a darker complexion and more agreeable figure. Their dialect, indeed, is the same except some few terminations, and they make a clapping noise with the tongue like the Hottentots of the Cape.

The dress of the men is nearly similar to that of the colonial Hottentots, but arranged with greater taste, and their mantles are generally made of calf skins. A bit of ivory or very white bone is

* Some tribes of the Koraquas grease their bodies after the manner of the Hottentots, and others tattoo their face, breasts and arms like the Caffres. Each, however, takes choice of a different colour according to his own fancy.

leather cap. Sandals are commonly laced up with leather thongs; and t arms are sometimes decorated with brass wire, which they scour so re they soon become unusually brillian an excellent polish.

The dress of the women, thoug similar to that of other Hottentots, is more elegant: the difference, howev confined to that arrangement of orn engages much of their time, and dis cellence of their taste. Their bon nerally made of zebra's hides, because that a white ground, intersected by bl stripes must tend very considerably t natural charms. They likewise decor with tissues, in the manner of half their circumstances debar them from ficent ornaments, they substitute band or thongs cut from the hide of an ox into a round form with a mallet

Hunting is the favourite employment of the Gonaquas, and their methods of procuring game are very dexterous. Their arrows are about eighteen inches long, formed of reeds, and pointed with small bones, which are dipped in a malignant poison, and thrust so artfully into the arrows that the reed may be drawn out of a penetrated body while the bone remains in the wound. However, in order to obviate the effects of the poison on their game, they cut away all the flesh that encircles the wound as soon as a victim expires. Their bows are proportionate to their arrows, and consequently do not exceed three feet in length: the string is invariably formed of intestines.

Totally ignorant of agriculture, they neither sow nor plant; and though they rear an abundance of sheep and horned cattle, they subsist, in general, on milk and the produce of the chace. One of their greatest pleasures consists in smoking; but instead of tobacco, they use the dried leaves of a plant called dagha, which they frequently sell to the neighbouring Hottentots. Their pipes are of their own fabrication, extremely large, and formed either of a bamboo reed, baked earth, or a soft ochre, that is scooped out to answer their purpose.

When the Gonaquas are desirous of amusing themselves with dancing and singing, they all join hands, and form a circle of proportionate extent to the number of performers. They then turn round from one side to another, separating occasionally to mark the measure, and clap their hands, without interrupting the cadence, while they chant "hoo hoo!" to the sound of their instruments. Sometimes one of the dancers goes to the middle of the circle, and forms a few steps alone, without starting from the spot where he stands: All then quit hands

supported by a bridge. The strings ma
ened at pleasure, by means of pegs, like
violin; but they cannot be expected t
much music in the hands of a perfor
beats them without either art, method,
rity. The romelpot is constructed of p
trunk of a tree, hollowed out, and cover
end with a tanned sheep's skin: this ins
beaten with the hand, and is the mos
any that are used among the savages.
is shaped exactly like a bow with a
intestines fixed to one end, and held in
by means of a cleft and flattened q
is applied to the performer's mouth, wh
produces some melodious sounds: the
ments, however, cannot play any re
nor will they sound in unison if seve
are played together.

When a female performer plays the
name is changed to the joumjoum; merel
instead of holding it like a huntsman's

pose of exciting compassion. Their attention
the old and infirm is highly creditable to the
dness of their dispositions. M. Le Vaillant
requested to visit a number of men, who, on
ount of their age and ill state of health, were
nded in separate huts by children of eight or
years old, who cheerfully prepared their food,
performed many other little services for the
erable objects of their attention. An institution
pious and respectable called forth our author's
nest approbation, and induced him to declare,
it might reflect honour upon the most polished
enlightened nations of the earth.

The Caffres, if taken collectively, are perhaps
erior in point of figure to any other African
ion. The men are tall, robust, and muscular;
an open ingenuous countenance; and so well
portioned that many of them, according to
. Barrow, would not disgrace the pedestal of
rcules in the Farnese palace. The women are
ier low of stature, and thick limbed, yet, (ex-
sive of their complexion, which is a glossy
wn) some of them might be deemed handsome,
an in an European country; and with respect
their character, our author informs us, that he
nd them to be modest without reserve; ex-
mely curious without being troublesome; viva-
us, but not impudent; and sportive, without
least tinge of lasciviousness. They are, indeed,
mpt from many of those evils, which in civilized
ions tend to vitiate the mind, and impede the
owth of the body. Their diet is perfectly simple,
e air they breathe is salubrious, and their exercises
e well calculated to preserve their natural health
d vigour. Their nerves are unshaken by *inebri-*
ating liquors, and their tempers unruffled by

alousy; their countenances are always cheerful, nd the whole of their demeanor bespeaks a happy nd contented mind.

A peculiarity is said to be attached to the female Caffres, which is not, perhaps, to be found in ny other nation, viz. their inattention to personal ornaments. That profusion which is so common among the Hottentot women is never seen among these: they merely wear a kross and a small apron, the latter of which is sometimes bordered with a few glass beads; bracelets are entirely disregarded by them, nor do they even wear any sort of head dress, notwithstanding the changes of the seasons.

The men, however, bestow much time on the decoration of their persons, which they frequently tattoo and rub with grease, on pretence of preserving their vigour and agility. Their arms and legs are usually encircled with bracelets, which are formed by cutting through the hollow part of an elephant's tusk, and polished according to the fancy of the wearer. Their necks are likewise adorned with a string of little bones, which they whiten and polish in a curious manner; o in place of such necklace, they sometimes suspen the bone of a leg of mutton from their neck which Vaillant has humourously compared, in effect, to that of a patch on the beauteous faces the ladies in Europe.

The Caffres must certainly be acknowledge more civilized people than those who reside ther toward the south, as their industry is n perceptible, and their acquaintance with som e necessary arts is greatly superior.

The initiatory rite of the Hebrews, w ese people generally practise, seems to nounce that they are either the descendan

one ancient nation, from whom they are now degenerated, or otherwise that they have copied from a people who are now forgotten; for ey readily acknowledge that they do not retain is ceremony as any part of their religion: consequently it has been merely transferred, with her customs, from father to son, through successive generations. Their idea of the nature nd power of the Deity is very exalted, and they elieve in a future state, where the virtuous shall rewarded, and the wicked severely punished; t as they have no idea of the creation, they ppose that the world existed from eternity, d that it will always retain its present state and ppearance. They have no priests nor form of orship; neither are there any schools in their aals, but the education of the Caffre youth pends solely upon the attention of their rents.

The government is monarchical; but the king's ower is very limited, his revenue being nothing ore than the production of his own fields, and s palace equally as small and plain as the hovel his meanest subject. When Mr. Barrow sited these people, their monarch was a young an, about five feet ten inches high; of an egant form and graceful deportment: his complexion was a deep bronze, his eyes brown and imated, his teeth white as ivory, and his open untenance strongly marked with the habit of inking. Vigorous in his mental, and amiable in s personal qualities, he was at once the friend d ruler of a happy people, who universally onounced his name with transport, and regarded his abode as the seat of felicity. His dress s *similar* to that of the chiefs in the colony,

king ; that upon any emergency they may to the royal residence, and transmit the o their sovereign to their own people an nearest neigbours.

Polygamy is allowed to all, but pri confined to the chiefs, who, for the mo purchase their wives from the Tambookie inferior classes are seldom able to buy mo one ; but as the females of this country c themselves as the absolute and transferal perty of their parents, any suitor who is ab vance the sum demanded, may rest ass success. When the bargain is conclud families of the lover and the elected bride two or three weeks to mirth and festivity

In cases of infidelity, which seldom the punishment is a fine, with the disr the wife at her husband's option ; but t demonstration of his dishonour, he m fully sacrifice both the parties to his rest

A murderer is invariably put to death, an

e their superiority, in point of true courage generosity, over the Hottentots; for whereas atter will eagerly avail themselves of every ntage, and deal out the stroke of destruction his hiding place, the Caffre seeks his enemy intrepid resolution, and fairly throws his gay in the open field; while his only de- is a leathern buckler, about three feet long, h commonly shelters him from the arrows is African foes; but if engaged with an pean, he finds that such a shield is incapable sisting a ball.

s their skill in music is not superior to that of Hottentots, they seldom attempt to sing, when they do, the performance is very ched; though the enunciation of their lan- e is fluent, soft, and harmonious.

heir favourite employments are of a pastoral , and their leisure hours are usually devoted he chace. Of fishing they are totally igno- , so that the whole extent of their coast, gh washed by the sea and intersected by se- l considerable rivers, does not exhibit a le boat, or floating vessel of any construc- : probably some superstition may prohibit se of fish, or otherwise the Caffres may be illing, from natural timidity, to entrust selves in a frail bark upon the ocean. Of nomy they only know, that the moon will e gone through all its appearances in about y days, and that twelve moons will bring a lution of the seasons. Their chronology, ch is kept by the moon, and registered by hes in a piece of timber, seldom extends ond one generation; when the old series e-

ferred upon the son or nephew of
but in case there are no such relati
the reins of government, a soverei
from among the chiefs of the differen
this is seldom effected without viole
and some effusion of blood.

Their mode of disposing of the
tremely singular, and very differ
practice of the surrounding nat
chiefs are usually buried under t
are appointed for the nocturnal
cattle; and their children are dep
cavated ant-hills; but all other
exposed, on their decease, to the
are held sacred by the Caffres, and
to ravage the country without mole
bodies of their kings are generally
a heap of stones, collected and arr
of a dome.

The Kabobiquas are nearly of th
with the Caffres, and their complex

dom tattooed like those of their husbands,
they ornament their hair with those
s of copper buttons which are worn by the
ex.

weapons of the warriors are poisoned
, and a lance with a long iron point,
entirely different from the hassagay of the
tots. Their defensive armour consists of
ck bucklers made of skins, which are ge-
strong enough to repel the weapons of
nemies. The one is large enough to cover
hole body; the other is considerably
, and is used by the combatant as occasion
s. The shields of this tribe are distin-
l by particular colours from those of the
ouring nations; and the smaller ones are
ted with several rows of beads which are
d in various compartments, according to
te or fancy of the owner.

unters, they are keen and resolute, patient
ue, and nearly as agile as the antelopes they
; as friends, they are zealous, kind, and
lent; and as subjects, they are faithful and
nate. Though destitute of worship, priests,
ious ceremonies, they have some faint idea
preme Being, who resides beyond the stars,
overns the inhabitants of the universe.
ly the long journeys which they are fre-
obliged to take, on account of the aridity
country, may inspire them with notions
e utterly unknown to more settled nations.
reas in other tribes, the chief may be called
cipal among his equals, the chief of the
iquas is a sovereign in the midst of his
bjects. His orders are never disputed, but
lightest intimation, the whole horde fly to

that of the Gonaquas, and their f
bly agreeable. Their krosses exa
the Hottentot clokes, and are fancifu
with plates of copper and glass be
tured by the blacks who dwell on t
Indian sea. Their hair is usually
grease, mingled with the powder o
ferous woods; and their arms
tattooed in a variety of figures, thou
is not so prevalent among them,
people who reside farther toward t

It must be confessed that t
warlike people; yet they handle
and poisoned arrows, with great
are possessed of some of those fine
equally formidable in battle, an
herdsmen in time of peace.

Their musical instruments res
other Hottentots, but their dancir
ent, and seems to partake much

other with an unblemished integrity that
justly suffuse the cheeks of many Europeans
the glow of conscious inferiority.

e Houzouanas are a brave and wandering
e, who have been often, though very impro-
confounded with the Boshies-men. When
aillant was at the Cape, he was told, that
ormerly inhabited the country of Camdebo,
ie Snowy Mountains; and that they lived on
able and friendly terms with the European
rs, till a set of lawless banditti; sent from
nd, subjected them to bondage, repaid their
aborious services with harsh treatment, and,
the Houzouanas fled to the mountains for
, they pursued and massacred them like
easts: that on this, they removed to the
y which they now possess; but enraged
ir unmerited injuries, they swore, in their
ame, and in that of their posterity, to be
ged on the tyrannical Europeans. "And
dds our author), if tradition says true, was
eful and industrious nation rendered war-
indictive and ferocious."

hatred of the Houzouanas to the Dutch
rs is indeed perpetuated, and their courage
edatory habits render them the dread of all
rrounding tribes; yet a Hottentot who
ed many years among them, assured our
, that they are by no means murderers by
ion; that they take up arms only to make
eprisals; that they subsist entirely by
g, and that though they sometimes commit a
y to supply their wants, they never kill,
in self defence or in retaliation. On
ole they seem to resemble the Arabs, being
em, brave and addicted to rapine, but a

Houzouanas; and he thi
men of their brave, tempera
nation, would be sufficient
prising European through
journey. Yet he describ
superior to the other native
as but of low stature; a p
inches high, being among t
tall; but in their well
bodies are united surprising
together with a certain air
assurance, which over-awes t

Of all the savage races,
that appeared endowed wit
and a constitution so hardy.
them as affectionate husbands
respect to their persons, thei
toward the chin than thos
and they are not so black,
lead coloured complexion of
hair is short and

nes they stop in fertile places, and erect a
r temporary village; in which case they
private property, but enjoy all things in
n. When two of their hordes meet, the
on is friendly on both sides, and they in-
behave as brethren though they have
een each other before.

are so extremely nimble, that they climb
hest mountains and most dangerous rocks
ual courage and facility; and it appears,
y conducted M. Le Vaillant with his Hot-
servants and cattle, over precipices,
without their encouragement and assist-
would have been deemed utterly impos-

urnal fires are a kind of telegraphs which
eople have brought to great perfection;
varying the number and form of these
ey announce to their distant friends a vic-
defeat, an arrival or departure, a success-
edition, or the want of assistance. Among
hysical peculiarities, our author describes
mous natural rump of the women, which,
very motion of the body, exhibits a remark-
ivering undulation. This protuberance is
lly covered with a thin, pliable skin,
yields to the agitation of the flesh. When
omen have children too young to fol-
m, they place them on this rump: and
llant informs us, that he has seen a female
uana run with a child of three years old,
ood erect at her back, like a foot-boy be-
carriage. Yet, notwithstanding this mon-
deformity, the hands and feet of the Hou-
women are remarkably delicate, and all
mbs well proportioned. Like their hus-

tail of some quadru
which, when violen
a handkerchief.

CHAP. VII.

OF THE AFRICAN ISLANDS.

Situation, Climate, Soil, &c.

HE principal islands of Africa are Madagas-
the island of Bourbon, Mauritius, and the
ıds of Comorro and Zocotara, all which lie
ıe eastward of the continent in the Indian
an. On the south west lie the islands of St.
ena, Ascension, Annobon, and Prince's island;
on the north west lie the Cape de Verd
nds, the Madeiras, and the Azores.

Iadagascar is one of the largest islands in
world, hitherto known; being about eight
dred miles in length, and in some parts above
hundred in breadth. It is every where wa-
d by rivers and rivulets which rise from a
chain of mountains that runs through its
le extent from east to west. These moun-
s are said to contain a variety of minerals and
ils. They are also covered with precipices,
summits of which are crowned with monstrous
s that seem coeval with the world, and in-
persed with grand cascades, the approach to
ch is generally inaccessible. To these views
ublimely picturesque, rural scenes succeed;
e hills, gently rising grounds, and extensive
ns, the vegetation of which is never repressed
the intemperance or the vicissitudes of the
ou. The climate is uncommonly fine, and

inaccessible, and ha
good roads for ship
most part mountainou
and fertile plains. T
to such a degree as m
situation, the breezes
constant and refreshing
they have one or two e
so as to render it hig
these fail of making t
occur, and cut off many
tops of the mountains
with snow; which, mel
summer, waters the cou
of rivulets; so that the
deep, is extremely fruitfu

This island was discov
in 1545, as appears by a
upon a pillar when they f
the French settled in M
was totall

first thing they did was to erect the arms of
ice, and to give the island the name of Bour-
; they then erected some huts, and laid out
lens, in which they cultivated different sorts
oots and tobacco; but just as the last became
, the whole plantation was destroyed by a
icane. The French, however, went to work
n, and, having now some acquaintance with
climate, succeeded better; but receiving no
our from Madagascar, and being tired of
g by themselves, they embraced the offer of
nglish captain, and in 1658, embarked for
ras.

When the last great blow was given to the
ch at Madagascar by the natives, who sur-
ed and cut them off in one night; there
ped as many men, as with their wives, who
e natives, filled two canoes; and these be-
driven, by the wind, on the isle of Bour-
, were the next set of people who inhabited
This colony, having no opportunity to re-
e, applied themselves seriously to the culti-
on of the island; and soon afterwards an ad-
nal stock of inhabitants arrived. A pirate
had been committing depredations in the
es, was wrecked upon the rocks of this
d at his return, and his crew cheerfully
ed the former inhabitants; and as they had a
t many female Indians whom they had made
oners, they lived with them, and in process
ime had a numerous posterity. A greater
mentation was also made from the East India
s, which frequently touched at this island
n too late to double the Cape; for many of
sailors deserted on account of the women, and
ing behind, became planters.

trade, when ships anchor
sake of refreshments.

In this posture of affair
company put in their clai
property of the island, s
families and a governor.
expected to reap some b
masters; but finding ver
governor took too much u
at the instigation of a pri
ner, and threw him into a
fell a victim to hunger a
For this, some of the ring
a kind of fort was erecte
it, and the French flag k
respects so little care was
these fifty years, the isla
defence.

The island is divided i
first is that of St. Paul, wh
best peopled, and the h

ll peopled as the former, but the country is re pleasant and the situation better. At two gues distance, along the sea coast, lies St. ry's, which is but thinly peopled. The last most fertile quarter is that of St. Susan-h, which is about four leagues from St. Dennis.

Mauritius, or the Isle of France, is situated ut four hundred miles east of Madagascar, was discovered in the beginning of the six-nth century, by the Portuguese, who, know-that Pliny and other ancient writers had ntioned the island of Cerne, in these seas, took or granted that this must be it; and accord-ly styled it Cerne, or *Sirne*, in their maps, did not think proper to settle it. How-er, they put some goats, hogs, and other cattle shore, that in case any of their ships either go-to India or returning to Portugal, should be ged to touch there, they might meet with re-shments.

The Dutch in their second voyage to the East lies under admiral Vanneck, came with five ps on the 15th September, 1568; anchored in ommodious port, which they named Warwick en; and gave a good account of the place in ir journals. An English East India captain touch-there in the spring of 1612, and taking it for a w discovery, he bestowed upon it the name of gland's Forest, though others of the crew call-it Pearl island, and in the account of their yage, celebrated it as a place very convenient ships to touch at.

n 1638, the Dutch seated themselves here; at the very time they were employed in king their first settlement, the French sent essel to take possession of it, who found the

rocks.

In a course of years, it appear
ment at this island cost so much,
worth so little, that it was unde
abandon it to its old negro inhab
however, the famous M. de la
sent thither with the title of "go
the French islands;" and althoug
very bad state, he immediately
portance of the place, and bega
design of settling it to advantag
was to bring over black boys fr
whom, by careful training, he re
cellent soldiers, that he soon cor
negroes either to submit or to qui
taught the planters to cultivate t
vantage; brought fresh water to
an aqueduct; and made a very
he not only built sloops and la
even a ship of five hundred ton

fterwards returned into the Indies; and per-
d the work he had begun, and thus rendered
island one of the most important spots upon
lobe.

he air of Mauritius is hot and moist, but not
olesome. The south-east wind generally
s with least strength about sun-rise; and, for
or five days, at intervals, in the course of a
h, the wind ceases in the north part of the
d for an hour or two; a small breeze then
from the north-west, during which a ship
oned at the entrance of the channel might
r the harbour and attack the forts.

inzuan or Joanna, the principal of the Comorro
ds, is situated between the north end of
agascar and the continent of Africa; and is
to possess many natural advantages. The
arance of the island from the bay is thus
ribed by Sir William Jones. "We were at
or in a bay, and before us was a vast amphi-
tre, of which you may form a general notion
picturing in your mind a multitude of hills,
itely varied in size and figure, and then sup-
ng them to be thrown together, with a kind of
ss symmetry, in all imaginable positions. The
ground was a series of mountains, one of
ch is pointed, near half a mile perpendicu-
high from the level of the sea, and little
e than three miles from the shore; all of them
ly clothed with wood, chiefly fruit-trees, of
exquisite verdure. I had seen many moun-
s of a stupendous height in Wales and Swit-
and; but never saw one before, round whose
p the clouds were almost continually rolling,
le its green summit rose flourishing above

ther cliffs, which brought down t
fertility quite to the beach; so t
of green, the sweetest of colours
at one view, by land and by wate
conduced more to the variety c
prospect than the many rows
especially the tall and graceful
shores, in the valleys, and on th
where one might almost suppos
been planted regularly by design.
tiful appearance can scarcely be
such a number of elegant palms
tion, with luxuriant tops, like
placed at just intervals, and sh
them part of the remoter landsca
left the rest to be supplied by the
gination. Neither the territory of
olives, date-trees and cypresses,
Hieres, with their delightful ora
peared so charming to me as the
road of Hinzuan."

mit. Some of the hills bear evident marks of
lcanic origin; and some have huge rocks of
, and a kind of half vitrified flags. The
ntry, according to Mr. Forster, has a fine ap-
rance, being principally laid out in gardens
pasturage, and covered with a rich profu-
of herbage, fruits, and flowers.

his island was first discovered by the Portu-
se in 1502, on St. Helen's day, whence it de-
d its name; but as the discoverers either aban-
ed or never took possession of it, the Dutch
me its masters, and retained it in their hands
he year 1600; when they were expelled by
English. In 1673, the Dutch took it by sur-
e; but it was soon recovered by the brave
ain Munden, who also captured three Dutch
Indiamen then lying in the harbour. The
h had fortified the only landing place on the
d, and erected batteries of great guns, to
ent a descent: but the English entering a
l creek, where only two men abreast could
p up, climbed to the top of the rock in the
t, and appeared the next morning behind the
eries; at which the Dutch were so terrified,
they immediately surrendered at discretion.

. Matthew Annobon is a small island on the
t of Loango, belonging to the Portuguese, and
to be about five or six French leagues in com-
. Here are two high mountains, the tops of
h being continually covered with clouds, oc-
n frequent rains. On the south east of the
d are two rocks; one of which is upon a level
the surface of the sea; the other higher and
r, but both dangerous in the night to ship-
; *though* between them the channel is deep
lear. These rocks are inhabited by vast

side is very dangerous, thou
ships which have no intent
the continent. The climat
the air serene for the grea
and every part of the island i
brooks and fresh-water spri
and full moons, these spring
brackish taste.

The islands of Cape de
thirteenth and nineteenth deg
the principal are nine in num
St. Lucia, St. Nicholas, th
Vista, Mayo, St. Jago, Fueg

St. Antonio is separated fr
a clear navigable channel,
broad: On the north side it
shipping, with a collection
from springs, which, howe
the name of a pond. The
north-east to south-west, an

but its best road is opposite to St. Vincent's
south west, where there are at least twenty
s of water.

ago is the largest, most populous and fertile
Cape de Verd islands, and the residence of
rtuguese viceroy. It lies about thirteen
ast of the island of Mayo, and abounds
igh barren mountains; but the air in the
seasons is very unwholesome to strangers.
rincipal products are sugar, cotton, wine
me excellent fruits.—Fuego, as being
noted for its volcano will be described in
t section; and some of the other islands,
iced, afford nothing worthy of our reader's
n.

Canaries are situated over against the em-
Morocco, and were anciently called the
ate Islands, on account of their temperate
and delicious fruits. Though known to the
s, however, they were long forgotten, till
le Betencourt discovered them in 1402.
paniards got possession of all these islands,
Madeira, which belongs to the Portuguese;
y still retain them.

riffe, one of the Canary islands, is very
for its lofty mountain called the Peak,
rises like a sugar-loaf in the middle of the
and may be seen at sea in clear weather
ndred and twenty miles distance. Some
make the height of this mountain fifteen
and others three or four times that number,
ing undoubtedly the winding ascent; but
s says it is four miles five furlongs per-
lar, and Raimondus reckons it three miles.
Which of these accounts is nearest the truth
not determine, but perhaps it is that of

They set out from Oratavia
west side of the island, and
bare mountains and sandy pl
to the foot of the Peak, wher
of huge stones, that seem to
from above. After they had
mile on horseback, they wer
and climb the hill on foot; an
a steep black rock about a mile
the top of it as flat as a paven
was very cold after sun-set, a
to keep great fires all night.
proceeded to that part of t
the Sugar-Loaf, which being s
deep white sand, it was very
though they were provided w
soles a finger broader than th
facilitate the passage. When
summit they found a strong wi
breathing of a hot sulphureous

they did not descend into the pit above four
yards, though some have ventured to the
n. The brim of this pit, on which they
was not above a yard broad; and from
they could clearly see the Grand Canary,
, Gomera, and even Ferro, which is twenty
es distant. As soon as the sun appears, the
w of the Peak seems to cover not only this
he Great Canary island, but even the sea to
ery horizon, where it looks as if, being li-
, it turned up into the air.

e same gentlemen relate, that there was a
deal of snow and ice about two thirds of
ay up, but at the top there was none at all;
doubtless is owing to the hot steam proceed-
rom the caldron and the upper parts of the
tain. They mention a remarkable cave, ten
deep and fifteen broad, in shape like an
or cupola, with a hole at the top, near eight
over, through which their servants let them
by a rope till they came to a bank of snow.
e bottom of the cave there is a round well
ter, exactly underneath the opening above,
urface whereof is about a yard lower than
ow, and its depth about six fathoms. This
supposed to be a spring, but only snow blown
d dissolved, or water that drops from the
, and is there collected. About the sides
ool of this grotto there were isicles hanging
to the snow.—They met with no trees or
s in their passage but pines, and among the
sands, a bushy plant like broom.

physician, who lived upon the island of
riffe twenty years, gives it as his opinion,
the whole island, being impregnated with
one, formerly took fire, by the violence

and this appears from the vast n
rocks that lie at the bottom of it
miles round. From the Peak to
far almost as the shore, are still to
of the rivers of brimstone and mel
that way, and have so ruined the
flowed, that broom is now its o
The doctor adds, that in the s
the island there are high moun
earth, and stones with a rust on
copper and vitriol, and that t
springs of vitriolic water.

In the year 1704, there h
dreadful earthquake in the isla
which began the 24th of Decemb
till the 31st, when the earth o
volcanoes were formed, which
burning stones as made two co
tains; and the combustible matt
these new volcanoes kindled abov

lowed up or overturned, many thousands of people lost their lives, and the torrents of sulphur and metallic matter thrown out by these volcanoes converted a great part of a fruitful country into a barren desert.

In addition to the above particulars we shall transcribe an account of the crater of this extinguished volcano, and of some experiments made on its brink by M. Mongey on the 24th of August, 1785, which perhaps may not prove unacceptable to our readers.

"The crater of the Peak of Teneriffe," says this gentleman, "is a true sulphur pit, similar to those of Italy. It is about fifty fathoms long, and forty broad, rising abruptly from east to west. At the edges of the crater, particularly on the under side, are many spiracles, or natural chimnies, from which there exhale aqueous vapours and sulphureous acids, which are so hot as to make the thermometer rise from nine to thirty degrees of Reaumur. The inside of the crater is covered with yellow, red, and white argillaceous earth, and blocks of lava partly decomposed. Under these blocks are found eight-sided rhomboidal crystals of sulphur, which are, probably, the finest that have ever been found. The water that exhales from the spiracles is perfectly pure, and not in the least acid, as appeared from several experiments.

"The great elevation of the Peak above the level of the sea induced me to make several chemical experiments, in order to compare the phenomena with those that occur in our laboratories. I shall here confine myself merely to the results.

"The volatilization and cooling of liquors were here very considerable; for half a minute was

and that of copper was st
very bright blue colour.
of the air by means of th
alkali and of vitriolic acid,
as well as from the direct
pours, that the air was ver
three hours, the vitriolic ac
any change either in colou
alkali remained dry, excep
vessel that contained it,
moist; and Saussure's h
sixty-four degrees as nearly
which then blew, would en

"Liquors appeared to
their smell or strength at
stance which contradicts all
hitherto related on this
ether, and spirit of wine ret
the smoking spirit of Bo
that seemed to have lost an

fixed alkali; but the production was slow and dly sensible, while at the level of the sea, this cess made with the same substances succeeded y readily and in abundance.

" As I was curious to investigate the nature of vapours that exhale from the crater, and ascertain whether they contained inflammable , fixed air, and marine acid, I made the following periments.—I exposed on the edge of one of spiracles a nitrous solution of silver in a ; it remained upwards of an hour in the midst the vapours which were continually exhaling, without any sensible alteration; which ficiently proved that no vapours of marine id exhaled from the crater. I then pouted into some drops of marine acid, where a precipi- ion of lunea cornea immediately ensued, but tead of being white, as it generally is, it was a dark violet colour, which soon became grey, l assumed the form of small scaly crystals. I ink myself justifiable in attributing this alteration colour to the vapours of inflammable air, cording to some experiments that I have made the precipitation of lunea cornea in such air. me-water, exposed for three hours on the rgin of the crater, and near a spiracle, was t covered with any calcareous pellicle, nor even dly with any filmy appearance; which seems prove, not only that no vapours of fixed air hale from the crater, but that the atmospheric which rests upon it, contains very little of at air, and that the inflammable vapours and lphureous acids alone are sensible and considera- e.—The electricity of the atmosphere was etty considerable; for Saussure's electrometer, hen held in the hand at the distance of about

towards the centre of the island,
summit, in the midst of whic
called the *Val*, always covere
delicate herbage. From the c
and the soil, it seems probable
been formerly a volcano, and t
crater. The supply of water i
the climate is excellent, and th
ral, mild and temperate: in s
very moderate on the higher p
and in winter the snow remains

The Azores are nine island
crown of Portugal, viz. St.
Terceera, St. George, Graci
Flores, and Corvo. They we
in 1439, by John Vanderbe
Bruges, who was driven upor
weather. On his arrival at L
his discovery, in consequence
tuguese set sail and took posse
name of their sovereign. The

account is given of it by Mr. Forster. "This island was first discovered in 1501, by Joas de Nova Galego, a Portuguese navigator; but it received its present name from Alfonso d'Albuquerque, in 1503. We sent several parties on shore who passed the night on the watch for turtles which came to lay their eggs on the sand. The dreariness of the place surpassed all the horrors of Easter Island, and Terra del Fuego, even without the assistance of snow. It was, in fact, a ruinous heap of rocks which seemed to be totally changed by the fire of a volcano. Nearly in the centre of the island rises a broad mountain, of great height, which, from the circumstance of its being partly covered with verdure, has obtained the name of the Green Mountain.

"We landed early in the morning among some rocks, the surf being always immensely high on the great beach; which consists of minute shell-sand, chiefly of a snowy white, very dry, and intolerable to the eyes when the sun shines. We ascended among heaps of black cavernous stone, which exactly resembles the most common lavas of Vesuvius, and of which the broken parts, looked as if they had been accumulated by art. The lava currents cooling very suddenly, may easily be imagined to produce such an effect. Having ascended about fifteen yards perpendicularly, we found ourselves on a level plain of six or eight

knocked together. Th
heaps of lava was cover
which we walked very
heaps did not appear, th
so extremely loose, and
ticles that the wind raise

" The conic hills con
sort of lava, which was
into earth. One of thes
front of the bay, and ha
summit, from whence th
its name. Its sides are
path near three quarters
round it to the summit.

" After examining this
some time, we concluded,
we stood was once the se
accumulation of whose cir
the conical hills had been
that the currents of lava w
ded into many heaps had

strong marks of having been worn by vast torrents of water, but were at present perfectly dry, the sun being in the northern hemisphere. In these gullies we found a small quantity of soil, consisting of a black volcanic earth, mixed with some whitish particles, and very gritty to the touch.

"Having, with great fatigue, climbed over this extensive and tremendous current of lava, we approached the foot of the Green Mountain, which even from our vessel in the bay, we had plainly distinguished to be of a different nature from all the rest of the country. Those parts of the lava which surrounded it were covered with a prodigious quantity of purslane, and a kind of new fern, where several flocks of wild goats were feeding. The great mountain is divided in its extremities, by various clefts, into several bodies; but in the centre they all run together, and form one broad mass of considerable height. The whole appears to consist of a gritty lime-stone, which has never been attacked by the volcano, but probably existed prior to its eruption. The sides of the mountain are clothed with a kind of grass, peculiar to the island, which Linnæus has named *aristida Adscensionis;* and the master of the New York sloop acquainted us that there is a spring of water on one part of the mountain, which falls down a great precipice, and is afterwards absorbed in the sand."

Our author is of opinion that with proper exertions, Ascension-Island might shortly be rendered fit for the habitation of men. "The introduction of furze," says he, "and of a few other plants which thrive best in a parched soil, would soon have the same effect as at St. Helena. The moisture *attracted from the atmosphere by the high mo-*

...until, till it coul
vegetables." Mr
returned gradually
noon; having a sp
traverse, where th
necks, and heated
gree, that their fe
sore. About three
water's side, and, a
among the rocks w
Next morning they
sion toward the G
were all so much fa
reach it.

Fudgo is said to b
much higher than any
islands; appearing, f
gle mountain, though
some deep valleys.
top which burns conti
great way off at sea.

In the vicinity of Amboule, a large town of Madagascar, there is a fountain of hot water, within twenty feet of a small river, whose sand is almost burning. The water of the fountain is said to boil an egg hard in two hours; and the inhabitants affirm it to be a sovereign remedy against the gout.

In the interior part of the island of Hinzuan, is a sacred lake half a mile in circumference. The adjacent hills covered with lofty trees and the unfrequented solitude of the place seem more calculated to inspire religious awe in those who visit this sequestered spot, than any sanctity in a flock of wild ducks inhabiting it, which are deified and worshipped by the original natives who occasionally offer sacrifices to them, and consult them as their oracles upon all important occasions. Being extremely averse to conduct strangers to the lake, they always stipulate that all fire arms shall be left at the distance of five miles. The worship paid to the birds ensures their safety and tranquillity, and renders them so perfectly tame, that they fearlessly approach any one who goes to see them.

FOSSILS, VEGETABLES, &c.

SEVERAL of the African islands contain a variety of minerals and fossils; but as these have been already noticed in the preceding part of our work, it would be unnecessary to particularize them in this place.

The fragrant drug called ambergrise, which

...y subject of natural history
origin has been so different
most satisfactory account of i
is that given by Dr. Swedia
third volume of the Philosopl

We are told by all persons
on the subject, that sometim
of birds, feathers, parts of
and bones of fish, are foun
ambergrise, or variously mi
very large quantity of piece
examined, he found none that
thing; though he admits th
may sometimes be found in it
any considerable size, wheth
or in a whale, he constantly
black spots, which, upon th
mination, appeared to be the
Octopodia, or cuttle fish; a
thinks, might be the substanc
hitherto always mistaken for

of fact universally credited; but it has been determined whether the ambergrise upon the sea and sea-coast is the same as ound in the whale, or whether they are dif- from each other? Whether that found on a, or sea-coast, has some properties or luent parts which that found in the whale t? and, lastly, whether that found in the is superior or inferior in its value and es to the former? It is likewise an import- iint to ascertain whether this drug is found kinds of whales, or only in a particular s? Whether it is constantly to be met n those animals? and, if so, in what part ir body it is to be found? All these ques- have been satisfactorily discussed by Dr. aur; and according to the best informa- e could obtain from several intelligent per- employed in procuring and selling amber- it appears, that this substance is some- found in the belly of the whale, but in that ular species only which is called the sper- i whale, and which, from its description elineation appears to be the Physeter Ma- phalus of Linnæus.

New England fishermen have long known mbergrise is to be found in the spermaceti ; and they are so convinced of this fact, henever they hear of a place where amber- is found, they always conclude that the are there frequented by this species of

enever they hook a spermaceti whale they e, that it not only vomits up whatever it *its stomach*; but also generally discharges es at the same time; and when this latter

...ewise generally
whales, which are
the sea.

It is said that the
is found, often has
lower part of its be
extracted; and it i
whales, in whose
seem not only torpi
riably leaner than
judge from the unio
it would seem that a
grise in the belly o
ease, and, probably,
death.

As soon as the fish
description, torpid, s
immediately either cu
protuberance, if ther
bowels from the orific
ambergrise in ...

no other than the intestinal canal is certain, cause they always begin their incision at the as, and find the cavity every where filled with ces, which, from their colour and smell, it is possible to mistake.

The ambergrise found in the intestinal canal a whale, is not so hard as that which is found the sea or sea coast, for when first taken out, has nearly the same colour and the same unpleasant smell as the more liquid dung of the hale has; but on exposing it to the air, it not ly turns greyish, and its surface becomes covered with a greyish dust like old chocolate, it also loses its disagreeable smell, and gradually acquires the peculiar odour for which it is nerally admired. The persons Dr. Swediaur conrsed with confessed that unless they knew from perience, that ambergrise thus discovered will, time, acquire the above-mentioned qualities, ey should never be able to distinguish ambergrise from hard indurated fæces. This is so e, that whenever a whale voids its fæces upon ing hooked, they look carefully to see if they nnot discover among the more liquid excrements, some pieces floating on the sea of a more mpact substance than the rest; these they take and wash, knowing them to be ambergrise.

In considering whether there be any material fference between ambergrise found on the sea sea-coast, and that found in the body of a hale, Dr. Swediaur refutes the opinion that all bergrise found in whales is of an inferior quay, and therefore much less in price. Ambergrise, he observes, is only valued for its purity, mpactness, colour, and smell. There are ces of ambergrise found on different coasts,

whale is, because it is commor
been longer exposed to the air.

This singular substance is s
quently found in male than f
whales. The pieces found i
the most part, small, and tho
seem constantly to be larger a
lity; and therefore the high p
to the size is not merely imag
sake, but in some respect is
cause such large pieces appea
age, and to possess the desir
higher degree of perfection tha

It is known that the sq
cuttle fish, is the constant and
spermaceti-whale. Of this th
well persuaded, that whenever
recent relics of it swimming
conclude that a whale of this
has been in that part. Ano
which corroborates the fact is

ith them, which produce an abscess of the abmen, or become fatal to the animal; whence both cases, on the bursting of its belly, that rdened substance called ambergrise, is found imming on the sea, or thrown upon the coast.

From the preceding account, and his having nstantly found beaks of the sepia in all pieces ambergrise of any considerable size. Dr. vediaur concludes with great probability, that ambergrise is generated in the bowels of the ermaceti whale, and there mixed with the beaks the sepia octopodia, which is the principal od of that whale. He therefore defines amberise to be the preternaturally hardened dung of e spermaceti whale, mixed with some indigesble relics of its food.

The use of ambergrise in Europe, is now early confined to perfumery, though it has been rmerly recommended in medicine by several minent physicians. Dr. Swediaur observes, at if we wish to see any medical effects from is substance, we must certainly not expect em from two or three grains, but give rather many scruples of it for a dose: though even en, he thinks, there would be no reason to exct much effect from it; as he had himself taken unadulterated ambergrise in powder thirty rains at once, without observing the least senble effect from it. A sailor, however, who had e curiosity to try the effect of ambergrise upon mself, took half an ounce of it melted upon e fire, and found it a good aperient; which oves that it is not quite an inert substance.

In Asia and some parts of Africa, ambergrise is t only used as a medicine and a perfume, but conderable use is also made of it in cookery, by addi-

hands, either alone or mixed with
it is to some persons extremely offen

Ambergrise may be known to be
its fragrant scent, when a hot ne
thrust into it, and its melting like
form consistence; whereas the co
not yield such a smell, nor prove
texture. It is very remarkable, t
this drug which is the most sweet o
should be capable of being resemble
a preparation of one of the most odio
Homberg found, that a vessel in
made a long digestion of the human f
a very strong and perfect smell o
insomuch that one might have sup
quantity of essence of ambergrise h
in it. The perfume, indeed, was
offensive, that he was obliged to ren
out of his laboratory.

We find various instances, in respe

fered fifty thousand crowns for it. Another iece was taken up at the Cape of Good Hope, hich weighed three hundred pounds; and in the hilosophical Transactions there is an account of nother, which weighed no less than fifteen thou- nd pounds.

With respect to the vegetable productions of ese islands, one of the most remarkable is ebony, hich though not peculiar to Madagascar, is und there in great abundance; and is a very fine ood used in mosaic and inlaid works, toys, &c. cing very hard and heavy, and susceptible of a ost beautiful polish.

There are various kinds of ebony, black, red, nd green, all of them the product of Madagascar; hough Mauritius, the isle of Bourbon, and some the American islands furnish part of the ebonies at are used in Europe. Authors and travellers ave given very different accounts of the tree that ields the black ebony, but the most authentic is at of M. Flacourt, who resided many years in Madagascar as governor of the island. He assures that it grows very high and thick, its bark be- g black, and its leaves resembling those of our yrtle, of a deep, dusky green colour. Tavernier sures us, that the islanders always bury the ees when cut down, in order to make them e blacker, and to prevent their splitting when rought.

Black ebony is much preferred to that of other lours. The best is a jet black, free of veins d rind, very massive, astringent, and of an rid pungent taste. Its rind yields an agreeable rfume when laid on burning coals; and when een *it readily* takes fire, from the abundance of *fat*. The Indians make statues of their gods,

sound, fresh, and en
distil such a quantity
furnish drink to every
nature having provided
of the island. Nobody
tree is, only that it is
itself at the distance of
the sea. The circumfer
the diameter four, and it
to the top of the highest
branches are thick and e
mence about an ell from
cumference of the whole
dred and twenty feet.
acorn, and tastes somew
pine-apple, but is softer
leaves appear like those o
wider and more curved
perpetual succession, so
mains green.

"On th

ied steep cliff; so that the cloud having no
it by the gutter, gradually ascends it, and
ence advances slowly to the extremity of
ey, where it is checked by the front of the
hich terminates the valley. It then rests
e thick leaves and wide spreading branches,
ree, from whence it distils in drops during
ainder of the day until it is at length ex-
; in the same manner that we see water
m the leaves of trees after a heavy shower
. This distillation is not peculiar to the
r *till*, for some bresos which grow near
drop water; but their leaves being few
row, the quantity is so trifling, that though
ives catch some of it, yet they make little
t of any but what distils from the garse;
together with the water of some fountains,
at is saved in the winter season, is sufficient
e them and their flocks. The tree yields
water in those years when the easterly
have prevailed for a continuance; for by
winds only the clouds, or mists, are drawn
from the sea.

person lives on the spot near which this cu-
ree grows, who is appointed to take care
nd its water, and is allowed a house to
, together with a certain salary. He every
tributes to each family in the district, seven
water, besides what he gives to the prin-
eople of the island."

Whether the tree which yields water at the
t time, be the same as that mentioned in the
description I cannot determine; but it is
le there has been a succession of them: for
describing the Fortunate Islands, says, "In
ntains of Ambrion are trees resembling the

...omas, in the guipr
burn's Voyages," we
of a dropping tree,
Paz, in America :—

"On the morning
out on a large plain,
a tree of unusual size
a vast compass of gro
it. We had percei
ground about it to be
ther surprised, as wel
fallen for near six mo
certain course of the
that it was impossib
of dew, we were con
power to exhale all n
minutes after its risin
amazement, we saw w
distilling, pretty fast fr
this tree, which might
miraculous ; at least i

matter of this nature could not but incite us
e the strictest observations concerning it;
cordingly, we staid under the tree about
ours, and found that we could not fathom
y in five times. We observed the soil
it grew to be very strong; and, upon the
nquiry we could afterwards make, both of
ives of the country and the Spanish inha-
we could not learn that there was any tree
nilar nature throughout New Spain, nor
all America over. I do not, however,
this as a prodigy in nature; because,
I am not philosopher enough to ascribe any
cause for it, the learned may perhaps be
give substantial reasons, for what ap-
to us a great and marvellous secret."

il, or archilla, is a curious kind of moss,
grows upon rocks in the Canary and Cape
d Islands, and yields a rich purple tincture,
e indeed, but extremely beautiful. This
imported to Great Britain as it is gathered.
who prepare it for the use of the dyer, grind
ixt stones, so as to thoroughly bruise it, but
reduce it to powder; and then moisten it
nally with a strong spirit of urine, or urine
mixed with quicklime; in a few days it
es a purplish red, and, at length, a blue

dyers seldom employ this drug by itself
ount of its dearness, and the perishing na-
f its beauty. The chief use they make of
or giving a bloom to other colours, as pinks,
This is effected by passing the dyed cloth or
rough hot water lightly impregnated with
Mr. Hellot informs us, that, by the add
of a little solution of tin, this drug gives a

...s the spirits of thermom
the air destroys its colour u
of the air produces a simi
metically sealed tubes, the
meters becoming entirely
of a few years. M. N
" French Memoirs for 174
spirit, upon breaking the
colour, and this for a numbe
that a watery tincture of
tubes of thermometers lost i
and that in an open deep
lourless at the bottom, wh
mained unchanged.

A solution of archil in w
marble, stains it of a beauti
blue colour, far more durab
it communicates to other
asserts, that he has seen pie
with it, which, in two ye
visible alteration. It sinks

oos of an enormous height and thickness
en noticed, by voyagers, among the
e productions of Madagascar. The main
the bamboo is long, thick, and jointed;
out horizontally; and sends forth many
al woody fibres, of a whitish colour, and
siderable length. From the joints of the
t spring several round jointed stalks to a
us height, and at about ten or twelve feet
ground send out at their joints several
ined together at their base, and running
e same manner as those they shoot out
If any of these be planted with a piece of
stalk adhering to them, they will perpe-
eir species. They are armed at the joints
e or two rigid spines, and furnished with
oval leaves, eight or nine inches long,
n short footstalks.

lowers are produced in large panicles from
s of the stalks, and placed three in a par-
e to their receptacles: they resemble those
ommon reed, and are succeeded by seeds
ame form, surrounded with down. The
hoots are covered with a dark green bark:
hen very tender, are put in a composition
gar, salt, garlic, and the pods of capsi-
nd thus afford a pickle which is said to
the appetite, and assist digestion. The
n their young state, are almost solid, and
a sweet milky juice; but as they advance
they become hollow, except at the joints,
hey are stopped by a woody membrane,
hich the milky liquor lodges, and concretes
bstance called *tabaxir* or "sugar of mom-
hich was so highly esteemed by the an-
some particular disorders, that it was

pipes; and they als
with which palanquir
Oriental countries.
monly used for walk
South Sea islanders n
foot long, which they
their nostrils.

The Chinese are sai
bamboo, by which a
the art of swimming,
above water. The fo
taken from a "Letter
man's Preservative."—
was passenger in a shi
burden about four hundr
Francisco Xavir comma
Chinese, and Portugu
China we met with a s
all our masts, bowsprit
hold we had six feet

ssed on each side by two others, and the
operly secured, leaving a space for the
that the wearer had only to put it over
and tie it securely, which was done in
ttes: and we were fully satisfied that
ns thus equipped could not possibly

iit rabinsara, which abounds in the woods
gascar, is very valuable; and, accord-
e account of M. de Pagés, it unites in
qualities of cloves, cinnamon, and nut-
l when gathered a little before it is ripe,
e of supplying the place of those spices.
r canes of this island are much larger and
n any in the West Indies, being as thick
s wrist, and so full of juice that a single
em will weigh two pounds, and one of
support a traveller for two or three days.
also abundance of tamarinds, and such
s quantities of limes and oranges, that
e casks may be filled with their juices at
expence.

ANIMALS.

NG the animals of these countries we
mit to mention the oxen of Madagascar,
remarkably large and fat, and have in-
protuberance of fat between the should-
hing about twenty pounds. Their flesh
esteemed by Europeans trading to
d ships are frequently sent to Mada-
purpose to kill and salt them in the

This species, called the van
has large canine teeth, a sh
naked ears, a pointed tongue
aculeated papillæ, strong c
no tail. The head is of a
lour; on the neck, shoul
lighter red; on the back and
wings dusky.

These odious creatures ar
dagascar, but inhabit all th
to the remotest in the Indian
flocks, and sometimes obsc
prodigious numbers; they l
one island to another imm
and return in clouds from t
till sun-rise. They common
are so fond of the juice of th
will intoxicate themselves
senseless on the ground. F
teeth, however, they appea
and Mr. Edwards positively

r met with another which extended farther
e could reach with out-stretched arms.
e of their bodies varies from that of a dove
of a pullet; their cry is loud and dreadful;
nell intolerably rank; and their resistance,
aken, very powerful.

ancients appear to have had some know-
of these animals; for Herodotus mentions
winged beasts, like bats, that molested the
who collected cassia, to such a degree,
y were obliged to cover their faces, all but
es, with skins.

æus gives this species the title of *vampire*,
uring it to be the kind which draws blood
eople in their sleep. M. de Buffon denies
ribing that faculty only to a species found in
America. But there is sufficient reason to
that this thirst after blood is not confined
bats of one continent, nor to one species:
tius and Nieuhoff inform us, that the bats
seldom fail attacking persons who lie with
et uncovered, whenever they can get ac-
nd Gumilla, after mentioning a greater
s species found on the banks of the Oro-
declares them to be equally greedy after
blood.

ons attacked by these animals have some-
een very near passing from a sound sleep
rnity; for the bat is so dexterous a bleeder,
nsinuate its aculeated tongue into a vein
t being perceived, and then suck the blood
is satiated; all the while fanning with its
and agitating the air in so pleasing a man-
to fling the sufferer into a still sounder sleep.
herefore, very unsafe to rest in the open

is to strip off their legs and
in oil. Crocodiles, chamele
be reckoned among the most
Madagascar.

Canary birds are universal
singing, and derive their n
whence they originally came
are at present so well know
preclude the necessity of a p
we flatter ourselves that th
may not prove unacceptable

Canary birds are disting
names at different ages and t
are new flown and cannot
called *pushers*; those brou
nestlings; those of the first
of the old ones, *branchers*; th
old, *criffs*; and those of thi
their notes they vary conside
a sweet song, others a low

n green birds; though the Canary birds
ch lustier, have a longer tail, and differ
n heaving the passages of the throat when
ng.

se birds being much esteemed for their
are sometimes sold at high prices, accord-
the excellency of their notes. To ascertain
er a Canary bird is in good health, it is ne-
to take him out of the store cage, and put
a clean one by himself: if he stand up
without shrinking in his feathers, looks
brisk eye, and does not clap his head un-
wing, he may be considered in perfect
; but if he bolt his tail, like a nightingale,
e has dunged, he either is or soon will be
and if his dung be watery or of a slimy
without any blackness, it is a certain
approaching death. When in good health,
ig lies round and hard, white on the out-
ark within, and dries quickly; though a
ird seldom dungs so hard unless he is very

ary birds are subject to many diseases, par-
y imposthumes, which affect the head,
them to fall suddenly from the perch, and
m in a short time, unless speedily re-
. In this case, the most approved remedy
intment made of fresh butter and capon's
melted together. With this the top of
d's head is to be anointed for two or three
nd it will dissolve the imposthume; but
nedicine has been too long delayed, then,
ree or four times anointing, see whether
ce of his head be soft, and if so, open it
and let out the matter, which with ano-
plication of the ointment, will perfect

try. The cages in which be made either of walr of wire; because these quire to be used in lar shape of cages, which proper for these birds little room to walk, an manner melancholy. shapes is the high and l

If these birds eat too n their shape, and their s case their victuals mu smaller quantity, by w dually recover their be first. When they are some hay must be put thoroughly in the sun mixed some moss dried some stag's hair. Gr breeding the young bi

As soon as they are

e first fifteen days, the cages should be
d with a black cloth, and for the fifteen
ing, with a green one. Five lessons in a
om the pipe are sufficient for these young
res; and they must not be disturbed with
l sounds at the same time lest they should
r them. Two lessons should be given them
n the morning, one about the middle of the
nd two more at night.

genius and temper of the several birds of
ind are very different. The males are al-
lways melancholy, and will not sing unless
d by hearing others: they will often kill
nales; and when there are several females
er with the males, they will frequently kill
ther from jealousy. It is therefore proper
nage their breeding thus: Let two female
e put into one cage, and when they have
ogether some time, they will have contract-
ort of fondness for each other, which will
sily be dissolved. Then if a male bird be
to the cage with these two, every thing
well; for their friendship will keep them
quarrelling between themselves, and will
them against his mischievous disposition;
e attack one of them, the other will imme-
take her part, and, after a few battles, the
will find himself over-matched, and will
ivide his affections between them.

e males watch the time of the female's lay-
id devour the eggs; and others will take
ung ones in their beak, as soon as hatched,
ush them to death against the sides of the
When a male has been once guilty of this, he
be shut up in a small cage in the middle of
e one, in which the female is breeding her

sitting, or bringing u
removed, and only br
cage at certain times, t
is perfectly cured.

Some of the uninhab
Islands are said to con
animals are not found l
the continents of Asia a
a long head, pointed no
legs, well clothed witl
the head and neck ar
body generally of a pa
yellow; but it is som
sometimes entirely blacl
try it inhabits.

This ferocious animal
a dog. His eyes spark
degree of wild fury i
short, but admits of a ve
side; his teeth are larg

a society of peace but of war; it is attended with tumult and dreadful howlings, and indicates an attack upon some large animal. This expedition is no sooner finished than they separate and each returns in silence to his solitary den. Indeed there is but little intercourse between the males and females, for they feel the mutual attractions of love but once a year, and never remain long together. The time of gestation is about fourteen weeks; and young whelps are commonly found from the end of April to the beginning of July. When the females are about to bring forth, they search for a concealed place in the inmost recesses of a forest; and after fixing on a spot, they make it smooth for a considerable space, by tearing up all the bramble and brush-wood. They then collect great quantities of moss, and prepare a commodious bed for their young, which are generally five or six in number, but never less than three. They come into the world blind like puppies: the mother suckles them for a few weeks, and then learns them to eat flesh, which she prepares by tearing it into small pieces. Some time after she brings them field mice, leverets, partridges &c. which they are taught to worry and devour. They never quit the den till the end of six weeks or two months; but they then follow their mother, who leads them to drink in the hollow trunk of a tree, or at some neighbouring spring.

Though, like other females, the she-wolf is more timid than the male, yet when her young are attacked, she defends them with intrepidity and, *losing all* sense of danger, becomes perfectly *furious*. She never leaves them till they are

they sleep, but more fr
the night, and their re
light slumber. They d
time of drought, when
hollow trunks of old tr
times a day to the brook

The wolf possesses g
in the muscles of his n
carry a sheep in his mo
outrun the shepherd ; so
ped or deprived of his p
fights but from necessit
of courage. When wo
ters dismal cries, but
with bludgeons he com
in a snare he is so overc
may either be killed or
facility ; for he suffers
muzzled, and led along,
least symptom of resenti

The senses of the wo

receives the emanations of living or dead animal brought to him from a distance on the passin gales.

Madness, in certain years, is apt to seize thes animals, and the consequences are often very me lancholy; for mad wolves will bite hogs and dog and the last again will almost infallibly bite som of the human species. The symptoms are th same with those attendant on the madness of dog. Fury sparkles in their eyes; a glutinou saliva distils from their mouths; they carry thei tails low, and bite indifferently men and beasts this disease, however, cannot be attributed to th rage of the dog days, as it always happens in th depth of winter.

There is nothing valuable in the wolf but hi skin, which makes a warm, durable fur. His flesh is so bad, that it is rejected with abhorrence by al other quadrupeds, and the smell of his breath i exceedingly offensive; as, to appease hunger, he swallows indiscriminately corrupted flesh, bones, hair, skins, &c. In short, this animal is consummately disagreeable; his aspect is base and savage, his voice dreadful, his odour insupportable, his disposition perverse, and his manners ferocious.

Of the animals found on the coasts of Ascension, Bourbon, and many of the neighbouring islands, we know of none more deserving the attention of the curious than the turtle or tortoise. But is observed there are two kinds of these animals, viz. the land and the sea tortoise; and this latter again is of four kinds, that is, the trunk turtle, the loggerhead, the hawksbill, and the *green turtle*; but it is only one sort, called the

an aperture for the head a
hind for the hind legs and ta
the under shell alone is used
from the upper by making
neath, and as soon as it is wa
off in laminæ, or leaves, with
without killing the animal, w
sea again acquires a new shel
thirteen in number, eight of
a little bent; and four of the
times a foot long, and six or
The best tortoise-shell is th
rent, and sprinkled with bro
when used in marquetry, &c
it what colour they please
leaves underneath it. It m
what manner the workman p
it in warm water, and then pu
for then, by the assistance of
it will take any impression,
be adorned and embellished

those who are acquainted with its taste, to be the most delicious of all eatables; and, at the same time, nothing can be more wholesome. The females go on shore to lay their eggs, which they deposit in a large hole in the sand, just above the high water mark, covering them up and leaving them to be hatched by the heat of the sun. A respectable writer informs us, that he has seen upon opening one of them, at least two hundred eggs, exactly round, taken out of it, about forty of which were enclosed in whitish tough skins with a substance like jelly round the yolk, and were ready to be laid all at one time; and Mr Rogers observes, that he saw, on some islands in the South-Sea, a turtle that had at least eight hundred eggs in its belly, a hundred and fifty of which were skinned, and ready for laying. In about twenty-five days after laying, the eggs are hatched by the heat of the sun; and then the little turtles, being as big as young quails, run directly to the sea, without any guide to lead them or show them the way. When any of these small ones are caught before they get into the sea, they are generally fried whole, and are said to be delicious eating.

Those who watch on shore for the turtles turn them on their backs, which is not performed without some difficulty, for they are very heavy and struggle hard. After this, if they are not far enough on shore, they haul them above high-water mark, and leave them till it suits their convenience to take them away; for, when once they are on their backs, they are not able to stir from the place. The writer of commodore Anson's voyage, says, that, in the heat of day, they often saw great numbers of them fast asleep, floating

thereby awakened, and
feet; which motion s
diver, till the boat came
A turtle of an ordinary
will yield, at least two
and the eggs, which ar
egg, but as round as a
derable time.

Turtles being amphi
weeds, as well in the w
they usually make their
ailment at the bottom o
fed sufficiently, they tak
outlets of rivers for fres
return to their former
sion of their feeding th
their heads above the su
they are alarmed by an
in which case they sud
tom; for the tortoise
lungs, she can distend h

Dr. Derham observes, it would be endless to descend to particulars, and therefore he only mentions that of the tortoise. But, besides the beauty of this covering, it is an instance of the excellent provision the wise Creator has made for the good of the animal world, being a stout guard to its body, and affording a safe retreat for its head, legs, and tail, which it draws within the shell upon any danger. And it is worth remarking, that the shell supplies the place of all bones in the creature, except those of the extreme parts, the head and neck, and the four legs and tail: so that at first it is somewhat surprising to see a complete skeleton consisting of so small a number of bones, and yet those abundantly sufficient for the use of the animal.

There remains another remarkable thing to be mentioned concerning these creatures, which is, that for two or three months in the year they leave their common haunts, where they chiefly feed, and resort to other places to lay their eggs; and it is thought they eat nothing during that season, so that both males and females grow very lean. This however is certain, that the land-tortoise, who is formed much in the same manner as those of the sea, is able to subsist several months without food; for those which are kept in gardens out of curiosity in England are observed to bury themselves in the ground at the approach of winter, and there remain in a kind of sleepy state till the return of spring invites them to leave their subterraneous retirement; for which, according to Dr. Derham, they are admirably adapted by the structure of their heart and lungs. To the long abstinence of these and other animals our author adds one or two instances of extra-

thirteen months, and slept very l
time. S. Chilton, of Tinsbury, 1
slept for several weeks together;
ing very extraordinary, we hope
from the Philosophical Transactic
unacceptable to the reader. Th
a labouring man, about twenty-fiv
not fat but fleshy, and on the 13t
without any visible cause, fell into a
out of which he could by no mea
those about him, but after a montl
of himself, put on his clothes, and
business of husbandry as usual. I
till about the 9th of April 1696, h
from any extraordinary drowsines
into his sleeping fit again. After
friends were prevailed on to try
might effect; and accordingly
bled, blistered, cupped, and scar
used all the external irritating med

e busy in getting in their harvest, and he
abered that, when he fell asleep, they were
g their oats and barley.

m this time he remained well till the 17th of
st, 1697, when he complained of a shivering
coldness in his back, vomited once or twice,
he same day fell fast asleep again. Dr.
r (from whom this account is taken) went to
n, and felt his pulse, which was then very
r; he was in a breathing perspiration, and
agreeable warmth all over his body. The
then put his mouth to his ear, and called him
d as he could several times by his name, pull-
n by the shoulders, pinched his nose, stopped
outh and nose together, but to no purpose,
an not giving the least sign of being sen-

Upon this he held a phial with spirit of
nomac under one of his nostrils, and injected
half an ounce of it up the same nostril, but it
nade his nose run, and his eye-lids tremble a

Finding no success this way, the doctor
ned that nostril with powder of white helle-
and waited some time to see what effect it
produce; but the man did not discover the
neasiness. The doctor then left him, fully
ed that he was really asleep, and no sullen
erfeit, as some people supposed.

out ten days after, an apothecary took four-
ounces of blood from the man's arm, tied it
, and left him as he found him, without his
g the least motion all the while. The latter
f September Dr. Oliver saw him again, and a
man ran a large pin into his arm to the very
but he gave no signs of being sensible what
one to him. In this manner he lay till the
November, when his mother, hearing that

coming up again presently, they asleep as ever. Thus he contin January or beginning of Februa he awaked perfectly well, ren that had happened all the while ed, that he was very little altere he complained the cold pinch usual, and so went about his bu times.

Numerous other instances of stinence, particularly from morbi found in the different periodical actions, &c. We may add, that of extraordinary abstinence, rela there have been apparent mark blood and humour, much like th and some other animals, though it that the air itself may furnish trition. It is certain there are kinds, animal, vegetable, &c. flo sphere, which must be continuall

eggs or spawn of fish grow and are nourished by the water.

The dolphin and flying-fish, are common on the coasts of these islands, and indeed in many parts of the Atlantic ocean. The flying fish, according to Sir Hans Sloane, is of the herring-kind; but other authors describe it as somewhat longer than a herring, and somewhat thicker and rounder in body. It has a fin on each side close to the gills, about four inches long, being broadest as well as a little rounded at the extremity. When these fishes are chased by a dolphin, or other fish of prey, they evade the pursuit by flying out of the water; and this flight they continue so long as their fins keep wet enough, which is perhaps for thirty or forty yards *, and usually in a straight line. They move their fins as nimbly as bees do their wings, so as scarce to be perceived; and, as they are of a very bright shining colour, they look exactly like so many pieces of polished silver darting through the air. It is supposed, however, that their sight is not very good when they are out of the water, because two or three of them fell upon the ship our author was on board of, in which case they were utterly disabled from rising again.

Mr. Grose observes, that he doubts whether what is called their flight is not more properly an extended leap, like that of the flying squirrels on shore, to whom the expansion of a membranous fold, that makes part of the skin of their hind legs, serves for a kind of wings; and that their necessity

* Mr. Moore, who saw abundance of these fish in his voyage to Africa, gives the same account as to their flying no longer than their fins are wet; but he believes some of them flew half a mile on a stretch.

leaping. So far is certain, he add
no guidance from their sight, but
long onward by a mechanical im
that they do not unfrequently fall
especially in the chains, which, b
any part of the gunnel, stop, an
They are very well tasted, and a
great shoals flying from the pursui
dolphins, and albacores, whose cl
seem to be, very few of those fishe
without some of them being fou
machs. Nor does this fish find
its own element; for several sea-b
vering for its emersion, and dart
such rapidity, as to make it their
replunges; so that it suffers a fata
both elements.

The dolphin, according to Sir H
very straight-bodied fish, and no
animal he is usually represented by

they drop into the water, after they have taken long flight to escape his jaws. In order to cat the dolphin, it is customary to fasten the feath ends of two goose quills to a hook, one on ea side; and this, being tied to a line, not mu thicker than whip-cord, is drawn after the shi stern when the wind does not blow too fresh, ma ing a small rippling on the surface of the sea, lik a flying-fish, just rising out of the water, which d ceives the dolphin, who seizes the hook and fe thers, and is taken.

The colours of the dolphin are extremely beau tiful, his head being of the most lively azure blu as is likewise his body from the back fin to th middle of each side, with some intermixture green, and strewed with bright spots of gold, sca let, &c. From hence quite down to his belly h skin is the colour of the fairest beaten gold, but f surpassing it in beauty. About three minutes a ter he is taken out of the water, his glorious co lours grow faint and fading, and then presently re turn and vanish again as quick as thought itsel In short, says our author, in five or six minute time this gay surprising object fills a traveller mind with more lofty notions of the great Creator wisdom and magnificence bestowed upon the infe rior part of the animal world, than ever it was ca pable of entertaining before. A mackarel ju taken out of the sea is the most beautiful of Englis fishes; but its colours are infinitely short of thos of the dolphin.

There is a stellar-fish of a very strange and sin gular form, of which Mr. Winthorp has give some account in the Philosophical Transaction *and which highly* merits the attention of the cu *ous. This fish* spreads itself from a pentag

whilst the fish was l
farther subdivided.
or egg-fish, the main
divisions of the brar
When first taken out
round like a wicker
upon the bait on the
arms, it will not quit
the vessel, till lying
to feel the want of its
voluntarily extends
The only use of all th
be to make a sort of
catch other fish, or wh
and as a store-basket t
supply ; or as a recep
ones of the same kin
also to feed on them ;
bable, as sometimes pi
within the concavity,

called a basket-fish, or a purse-net fish, till a fit- English name be found to distinguish its spe- s.

There is another kind of star-fish which tches out five long arms or claws, making five gles, and ending in so many points, resembling tar as it is usually painted. This fish moves in directions indifferently, sometimes creeping, d sometimes swimming. It has several little nks of a fleshy substance, through which it cks its food out of the mud; and, towards the ntre of its body, it has a mouth armed with teeth. these creatures do not enjoy the benefit of sight, discerning their prey in common with other imals, nature has therefore provided them with ore instruments for feeling, sucking, and devour- g their food; for when they have not an oppor- nity of exercising their teeth, they can work with eir trunks in the mud and among the weeds, and that means procure a tolerable repast. It is t yet discovered how the office of digestion is rformed in the star-fish, or how it voids its ex- ements, unless it be under a sort of roundish one, which is found on its back, and seems fas- ned to it with ligaments.

The echinus, or sea urchin, though not peculiar the Atlantic Ocean, deserves to be mentioned. here are several species of this shell-fish, but ose are most properly called so which are cover- l with prickles resembling those of the land- chin, or hedge-hog. The mouth of this fish is aced on its under part, touching the ground; and armed with five teeth, which meet at their ex- emities in a point, that they may all work toge- er. The stomach and bowels fill the middle of

jointed. Several of the
most of those shells that
but what is most remarka
a sort of bristles, which t
at pleasure. They are li
reeds, and with these the
juices which are their pr

But, of all the shell-fi
any other seas afford, pe
admired than the nautilu
neri has prettily describe
nious author of *Spectacle*
nated shell of this fish,
strong and lively colours,
natural boat, since the lit
makes use of it in that ca
he mounts up in it to the
furls a membrane to the
instead of a sail, and exte
like oars, he rows his littl
has a mind to dive, he st

ble he dilates himself, and so forces the wa-
t of his boat, by which evacuation it becomes
fically lighter than the water, and consequent-
s to the surface. Thus the animal steers his
e without chart or compass, self-taught in the
f navigation, and is at once both vessel and

From whatever quarter the wind blows, it
one to our little sailor, who is under no appre-
on of danger, nor ever destitute of rudder or
pump or cordage, having within himself all
ecessary utensils of navigation.

ie soldier-crab, or hermit, is a very remarkable
of shell-fish, described by Rondeletius and
naturalists as living in a house not its own,
wing its security to the labour of another,
h nature has provided it with a shell, and gi-
t claws to defend and subsist itself. It is the
m, it seems, of this fish to take possession of
rst shell he finds empty, and sometimes seve-
them meet naked, and contend for the same
ation, in which case, he that has the strongest
rs carries the day. Here the conqueror takes
s lodging for some time, till, being grown too
r his house, he quits it, and seeks out for ano-
f a convenient size, where he stays till he
d of it, or is grown too bulky, and then he re-
s again. This is the account that naturalists
of this fish; but the French author lately
ioned does not think it deserves the character
azy animal that lives by the labour of others,
is usually represented; for nature (says he)
s no such principle as idleness, nor ever acts
ut reason or wise design. The truth is, the
of this fish, called by the French the poor
or the hermit, is flabby, and covered with a
hell insufficient for its security; which obliges

oil distilled from this fi
for the rheumatism.

The cuttle-fish, the c
or polypus, seem to be d
fish, and are found in ti
as in the Atlantic. T
on the back with a whit
stance, an inch thick in
on the sides; on the upp
glabrous; on the lower
and friable. It has
encircled with red, and,
has two long trunks or
swimming, and to let dov
the hook at the end of
small fish on which it f
provided with much the
the pourcontrel or polyp
claws, an excrescence th
the form of a pipe, which

rges, cures spots and freckles, is good for the
removes swellings in the gums, and gives
in the asthma; the black humour is said
sen the belly; and the eggs absterge the kid-
and ureters.

ving mentioned a polypus (which word
ies many feet) it leads us to take notice of
y curious discovery made some years ago by
remblay at the Hague; concerning which
eaumur read a memorial before the Royal
emy of Sciences at Paris, in November, 1742.
substance of it was, that an aquatic insect
l a polypus was found to have this peculia-
n it, that, when cut into several parts, each
se parts produces, of itself, in the space of
y-four hours, what it wants to complete the
; so that the part belonging to the head
roduce a tail, and on the contrary. Nay,
of those insects have been cut transversly
orty parts, which each produced what was
ing in it to make a perfect insect; so that
one polypus proceeded forty. If they be cut
the middle from head to tail, each half will
ce another.—On this occasion M. Reaumur
several learned and judicious observations,
ularly that, as it is an axiom that nature is
ngular in her productions, there must be other
s endued with the like wonderful property:
e reports, that by experiments he actually
ered the same in certain earth-worms, but
ature operates in them much more slowly.
e fishes we have been describing are such as
rpetually travelling from place to place.
ere are several others of a quite contrary
, *which* remain all their lives attached to
d the same situation; as the auris marina,

seem designed as so many t
small worms that are found at
sea in great abundance.

Amongst this kind of anin
room is one of the most remark
quits the place where it has on
These little creatures are foun
sides of rocks, where they loo
when they are shut and collec
selves, and like the anemone w
display all their trunks. There
to open against their will, b
them they sometimes eject you
ent sizes, which seems to prov
viparous, and both male and
loosen the sea-mushroom from
away, and keep it in water, w
itself again to the first conven
When it has a mind to open, it
thrusts out two white pellicl

ishment, like the fine reeds or prickles of
ea-urchin, or star-fish, we cannot deny it a
in the animal kingdom, especially after
a circumstance as that of three or four
g ones issuing from the parent upon squeez-
it, which is confirmed by sufficient testi-
y.

his short account of some of the inhabitants
e ocean may serve as a specimen of that in-
essible wisdom which appears in the works
o creation, and of the various methods that
has provided for the support of different
als. And we cannot but admire the kind-
of Providence, in that profusion of riches
h the sea pours in upon us, every time it
and floods our coasts, viz. those vast quan-
of lobsters, oysters, and all sorts of shell-
it brings up along with it; from whence,
having fattened them either with its own
tance, or such nutritive particles of earth and
s are contained in it, retires by a gentle de-
se, giving man access to these dainties, and
ing him to come and gather its favours, which
s so liberally scattered upon the shore, or left
the rocks.

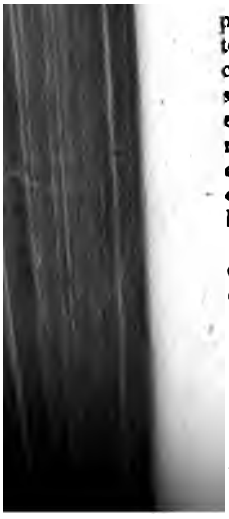
'e have also just reason to be charmed with
ustre and beauty that appears in the cover-
of the testaceous animals, though apparently
are nothing but a discharge of an excremen-
s matter from the body that produces them.
delightful is that mixture of red, blue, and
n colours that stain the silver ground of the
of the naker or mother of pearl! but most
ing of all is that wise design and contrivance
h appears not only in the shell of this fish,
en in that of the common oyster or muscle.

same nature, and by that mea
habitations proportionably to th
bodies. Hence come those cu
discern in the various shells of
without another, which perha
ber of their years, or at least th
of their growth.

Naturalists have been genera
the manner of the formation of
mal and its shell have been al
proceed from the same egg;
has shown the suppostion to be fa
by certain experiments, that the
snails are formed of a matter
from their bodies, and hardens
the air. All animals are known
are encompassed with a sort o
sphere, which exhales from the
assumes nearly their externa
have nothing peculiar in this re

bone, nor like any of the other parts, by vegeta
tion, that is, by a juice circulating within itself
but by an external addition of parts laid one ov
another.—To consider the thing a little more pa
ticularly; it is to be remembered, that the snail
head is always at the aperture of the shell, and i
tail in the tip or point of the shell; and that i
body is naturally turned into a spiral form, th
different circumvolutions whereof are in differe
planes. Suppose then the snail just hatched;
the matter it perspires petrifies round it, ther
must be formed a little cover proportioned to th
size of its body; and, as the body is yet too sma
to make a circumvolution of a spiral, at least
whole one, this cover will only be the centre,
at most the beginning of a little spiral curve. No
as the animal grows, if it ceased to perspire, it
evident all that is added to its body would re
main naked; but, as the perspiration continue
the cover increases in proportion to its growth
Thus an entire circumvolution of a spiral is forme
and so a second and a third; and still every ne
spire is bigger than the last, in regard the anim
grows in thickness, at the same time it grows i
length. When it ceases to grow, it does no
cease to perspire; and accordingly the shell in
creases in thickness, though not in length.

There is a surprising deal of workmanshi
shown in the formation of that hinge which join
the upper and lower shells of a muscle, and i
the curious movements of those little muscul
fibres and ligaments with which it is fastened
When the animal has a mind to shut itself clo
up within its vaulted habitation, it discharges
certain liquor into those muscles, which caus
them to dilate and swell, and consequ



probable conjectures, t
to determine any thing
cealed from our obser
sea. However what
excite wonder and ast
regularity of nature in
creatures, and our grat
of nature for those inn
berally bestows upon

We shall dismiss th
observing, that the riv
contain eels of an enc
are six feet long, and s
and so extremely vora
bathe in the water w
seize a man without f
cient to keep him und

each other, and sunk in a pit, forming a kind of loo holes, which contribute towards the defence these villages; some of which are besides fortifie with a ditch ten feet broad, and six deep. Th dwelling of the chief is called a *donac;* and at th extremities of the towns, a guard of from twelv to twenty men is usually kept.

The houses of private people consist of a conve nient cottage, surrounded by several small ones the master of the house dwells in the largest, an his women and slaves lodge in the others. The habitations are built of wood, covered with stra or leaves of the palm tree. The houses of th great men of the country are very spacious; eac house is composed of two walls and four apar ments: round about the principal house, som smaller tenements are erected for the accommoda tion of the women and children, but the slaves ar not permitted to pass the night within them. Mos of the houses inhabited by the Rohandrians ar built with taste and admirable symmetry.

In the small island of Annabon there is one town opposite to the road, that contains above a hundre houses, the whole surrounded by a parapet. Mos of the dwellings, however, are simple can huts, for in the whole island there is not a singl house built of stone, and only two of wood, whic belong to the Portuguese.

The town of Joanna, on the island of the same name, is the royal residence, and contains abou two hundred houses, which are enclosed either with high stone walls, or palings made with a kin of reed; and the streets are little narrow alleys extremely intricate and forming a perfect labyrinth The better kind of houses which are built of ston *within a court yard*, have a portico to shield the

chints and sattin mattre

Canary, the capital
about three miles in co
thousand inhabitants.
story high and flat at t
built. Here also are fo
cathedral, the latter of
structure.

Angra, the capital of
populous city, under th
bishop of Lisbon. It ha
four nunneries, and a
an inquisition and bisho
jurisdiction over all the
by a good wall and ditch
castle, rendered famou
king Alphonso VI. in 1
public and private buil
pace externally, they a
ed within; but the Po
for this poverty, by s

rs and pilots, for conducting vessels into the
ur, or to proper watering places.
e harbour of this city is the only tolerable one
e island of Ferara, being equally secured
st storms and the efforts of an enemy. It is
form of a crescent; the extremities of which
lefended by two high rocks, that run so far
he sea as to render the entrance narrow, and
ble of being easily covered by the batteries on
side. From this harbour the town is said to
derived its name, the word *Angra* signifying
ek, bay, or station for shipping; and this is
ost convenient one of all the Azores. The
ing of the port is from the east to the south-
, and, according to Frezier, it is not above
cable's length in breadth, and not two of good
m. Here ships may ride in perfect safety
g the summer; but as soon as winter begins,
torms are so furious, that all vessels are obliged
t to sea with the utmost expedition. These
s, however, are happily preceded by some
ible signs, with which experience has made
inhabitants perfectly well acquainted. On
occasions, the Pico, a high mountain in ano-
of the Azores, is overcast with thick clouds,
grows exceedingly dark, but what is regarded
e most certain sign, is the fluttering and chirping
cks of birds round the city for some days before
torm commences. The English, French, and
h, have each a consul residing at Angra,
gh the commerce of any of these nations with
Azores is very inconsiderable, being only for
d, corn, and other necessaries.
nta Cruz is the principal commercial town on
island of Teneriffe, and contains about seven
and inhabitants. It has several churches and

der the attack of an enemy
also some other forts for its
by a thick stone wall, and

About four leagues to t
close to the sea, there is
called the "Chapel of ou
which is an image of the V
in as much reverence here
Ephesus. This chapel is
ornaments that it is the ric
nary islands. At a certai
most all the inhabitants g
and many incredible stori
versally believed concernin

St. Chrystobal de la Lag
Teneriffe, and contains tw
five convents; but it has n
principally by the gentry
bitants are pretty numerou
solitary and desolate, tha
which are most frequented

Villa Franca, on the south side of the island, ntains two handsome convents, one of Franciscan ars, and another of nuns. At a small distance m this town is a small island called Ishao, which ntains a fine bason with only one entrance into sufficiently capacious to hold fifty sail of vessels ure from all weather: at present it wants clean- out, as the winter rains have washed down great antities of earth into it, and thereby diminished depth; but vessels frequently harbour between is island and the main.

We shall conclude this account of buildings in e African islands by observing, that Funchal, the pital of Madeira, is a large, handsome, and popu- is town, seated in a fertile valley on the southern ast of the island; and containing two castles, and veral fine churches.

STOMS, MANNERS, RELIGION AND GOVERNMENT OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE AFRICAN ISLANDS.

THE natives of Madagascar, called Madecasses, e in person above the middle size of Europeans. he colour of the skin varies considerably in differ- t tribes: among some it is of a deep black, ong others tawney; some of the natives are of opper colour, but the complexion of by far the eatest number is olive. All those who are black ve woolly hair, like the negroes on the coast of rica; but those who resemble Indians and Mu- toes have hair equally straight with that of Euro- ans, and their features are very regular and eeable. In their disposition they are lively and

bonnet in form of an
ed into small tresses,
grow only on the chi

The women have
nerally of he middle
though few can be
he ranked among the
the sex. They tie a
with a kind of und
covers the breasts.
ments about the neck
vided into a multitu
disposed, according to
of the individual.

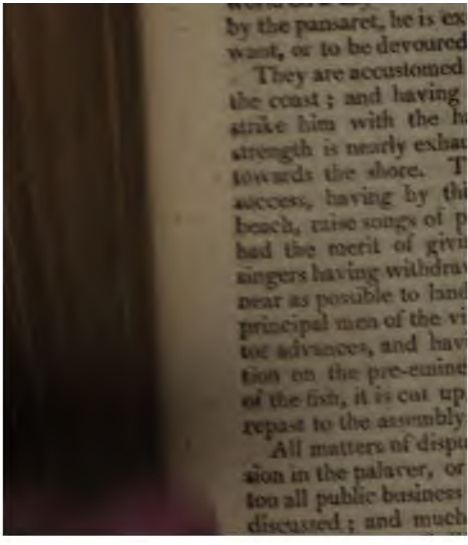
The men are little
are more inclined to
roam in the woods.
volved the care of cul
rice, corn, and fruits,
Madagascar bread-tre

The initiatory rite of the Jews is generally pe
formed upon males between the seventh and eight
day of their age; but sometimes at a later period
and the day of circumcision is solemnized in a
families with much joy and festivity.

They believe also in a devil, or evil being; an
upon this article of their creed, is founded th
craft of the pansaret, or magician, who, being sup
posed to defeat or controul the machinations of th
invisible enemy, practises a thousand tricks on th
credulity of the multitude. Few Indians, indeed
of good sense, give credit to the virtue of his en
chantments; but the more ignorant and superst
tious, who always compose the great mass of th
people in every country, suffer themselves to b
sadly duped by his fraud and imposition.

Amulets of a species of wood, suspended roun
the neck, or preserved in a little bag, are suppose
to secure the possessor against wounds, or the di
asters of war. A shrimp, or toad, applied wit
words of magical power to the head of a patien
is expected to restore him to his wonted health
Exposing the sick in a hut of a certain elevation
with an eastern aspect, from which is let fly an a
semblage of party-coloured threads, is deemed
sovereign remedy in the most desperate cases.
cure is sometimes expected from painting the pos
of the patient's house with different colours. Pe
fumes mix in abundance in all the arts and en
chantments of the magician; and though the grea
est part of this, no doubt, is imposture, the effec
of effluvia are not unknown to the physician or th
philosopher.

Madagascar presents a traveller with man
other absurd observances, of which it may be dif
cult to trace the origin; but which, for the v


by the pansaret, he is ex
want, or to be devoured
They are accustomed
the coast; and having
strike him with the h
strength is nearly exha
towards the shore. T
success, having by thi
beach, raise songs of p
had the merit of givi
singers having withdra
near as possible to land
principal men of the vi
toe advances, and havi
tion on the pre-emine
of the fish, it is cut up
repast to the assembly
All matters of dispu
sion in the palaver, or
too all public business
discussed; and much

ed, insomuch that it is difficult to determine wh
line of conduct is most eligible. But their chi
misfortune, as politicians and men of busines
originates in the versatility of their own minds
which can never be fixed on one precise object.

Property in this island consists in cattle, grain
and slaves. Every person who has had the mis
fortune to be made a prisoner of war, is reduced to
slavery, and from that moment is regarded by his
own kindred as an object of contempt.

Their arms consist of a shield and a kind of lance,
which they have the art of throwing with peculiar
address. They are also tolerably well provided
with muskets, which they have purchased of the
French, and in the use of which they are not un-
skilful. A few of the petty princes have procured
swivel guns from the same quarter; and it is said,
that one of them is in a condition to bring cannon
into the field.

On the eve of war, the women, children, and
cattle, retreat to the woods, and remain in con-
cealment till the issue of the campaign. The
village is then occupied only by the men, who,
previously to an act of hostility, sacrifice an ox.
n Indian, distinguished for his eloquence, then
es and makes a long harangue on the arrogance
d injustice of the enemy; his countrymen
anwhile dipping their lances in the blood of
victim. The carcase is then cut in pieces
h the skin, and distributed among the by-
ders, who instantly devour each man his por-
with the most horrid voracity; a ceremony
ciently descriptive of those ferocious senti-
s with which they proceed to vindicate their
, or avenge their wrongs. Their operations
field are of a very desultory nature, con-

prisoner of war. Sho
tune to succeed, they
off his cattle, and ensl
or never come to any t
ment.

These people are s
enmities; and some
voted subjects the mo
de Pagés saw a chief c
ed of the teeth of a ri
battle. A man of the
tured a daughter and
neighbour, ordered th
in cold blood, with a
killed the former, and
to carry home the dis

It seems that the se
a savage state, when
acts as an incentive to
The savage of Americ

anger: these are the spoils which at once soot
his rage and adorn his person. Such is man, un
der the uncontrouled influence of passion, an
devoid of the benign influences of religion.

The customary use of presents is the same her
as in India. It is the business of the inferior t
make the first advance, as well as the first pre
sent; but he is sure of a return. This custom o
giving and receiving presents, forms the bond o
union between strangers and the oriental nations
and where the protection of a chief is not only
necessary to security, but subsistence, we ought
not too hastily to condemn a practice differen
from our own. Here presents are publicly given
with us the same effect is often produced by the
less honourable means of private gratuities and
solicitations.

The natives of Madagascar indulge in all the
offices of hospitality; a virtue which is rather
the result of a natural impulse of the heart, than
the practice of any fixed and defined precept
such as founds the exercise of it in the nations o
Asia. When some travellers tell us, however,
that in Madagascar the offices of hospitality are
carried to such a pitch of extravagance, as to
make it customary for parents to prostitute their
children to the embraces of strangers, they speak
either from ignorance, or from a desire of excit-
ing wonder in their readers. From a closer in-
spection of their manners, it will be found, that
the little regard shown to chastity among that
people, may be resolved into a covetous principle,
of parents, and a long acquaintance with the pro-
pensities of dissolute men.

Besides the article of presents, the chief, by
means of his daughters, who act as spies on

i, Lohavohits, Ontsoa, and Andeves.—
oadziri, the richest and most powerful cla
nasters of several villages, and descended
he original lords of the country. They enjo
rivilege of killing beasts, when at a dis
rom the whites, and no Rohandrian or
candrian in the village. The Lohavohit
descendants from the Voadziri, and also l
but with this difference, that the one comm
a whole district, and the jurisdiction of the o
extends only to their own family and vil
They are also permitted to kill those beasts
intend to eat, when at a distance from the wh
The Ontsoa are next to the Lohavohits, and
their near relations; and the Andeves are
lowest of all, being originally slaves by fathe
mother.

The Voadziri, Lohavohits, and Onstoa, e
the *privilege* of submitting themselves, on
death of their sovereign, to any chief they ple
but by the present which the new lord m
on this occasion, he becomes the heir to all
possessions. Hence the lower classes, bo
whites and blacks, are generally under the g
est anguish of mind when death approaches, k
ing that their lords will not fail to deprive
children of every thing they possess. The
deves have no choice in the election of a

... 1776. ... of the ...
... at ... all those who are ... appear, and ... judgement ... that each Rohandrian is obl... will, a certain proportion o... the successors usually parce... Thirdly, the Ampansacabe is... each Rohandrian one tenth ... land, together with a certain ... horned cattle.

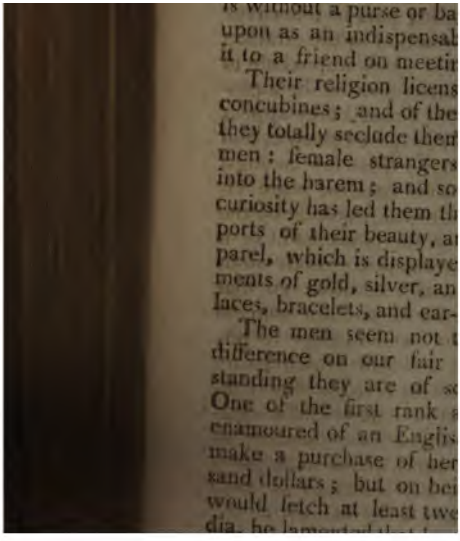
At the time of our author' it appeared that there were... drians actually reigning, an... eighty-seven Voadziri. "T... nues he, "preserve a regular ... would be extremely difficult ... count. They live in the m...

fifteen thousand one hundred and forty-nine blacks. It is difficult to distinguish the free men and slaves by their complexions; for even the free are of different colours; and a French writer assures us that he saw in a church one family, consisting of six generations, of all complexions. The eldest was a female, a hundred and eight years of age, of a brown black, like the Indians of Madagascar; her daughter a mulatto; her grand-daughter a mestizo; her great grand-daughter of a dusky yellow; her daughter, again, of an olive-colour; and the daughter of this last as fair as any English girl of the same age.

The people are, for the most part, of a gentle quiet disposition; very industrious, and submissive to authority, provided it is exercised with a tolerable degree of equity and decency; but when they conceive themselves used unjustly, they are very apt to break out in open rebellion; and the slaves have so little reason to complain of their masters, that they are always on the same side.

The original natives of Joanna, or Hinzuan, occupy the hilly parts of their country, and are frequently at war with the Arabian interlopers, who being greatly superior in point of numbers, have established themselves on the sea-coast by conquest. Though Joanna is not the largest of the Comora islands, it claims sovereignty over, and exacts tribute from, all the others. Here also are a regular form of government, and a public exercise of the Mahometan religion, both being introduced by the Arabians.

The colour of the two races of inhabitants is very different: the Arabs have not so deep a tinge as the others, being of a copper complexion, with



met. They attend their * mosques three or four times every day; and in prayer they prostrate themselves on the ground, frequently kissing it and expressing very fervent devotion. The superstitious adoration paid by some of the original inhabitants to a flock of ducks, which we have already mentioned in a preceding part of this chapter, is held in the utmost detestation by the Arabian part of the islanders; but it seems impossible to abolish the practice of it without occasioning a prodigious effusion of blood. In general they appear to be a courteous and well-disposed people, and very honest in their dealings; there are amongst them, however, as in all other nations, some viciously inclined; and theft is much practised by the lower class, notwithstanding the punishment of it is very exemplary, being amputation of both hands of the delinquent. It must also be observed that these people, like the inhabitants of most tropical countries, are very indolent, and neglect to improve the richness of that soil with which nature has blessed them. The climate is so extremely favourable to vegetation, that it requires little agricultural labour; but even that little is denied; so that, beyond oranges, bananas, cocoa-nuts, pine-apples, yams, and purslain, all of which grow spontaneously, few vegetables are to be met with.

The inhabitants of the island of Annobon are as subject to the Portuguese governor, who is the chief person in the island; but the negroes have their own chief, subordinate to him. They are as meanly clothed: the men wear nothing but a linen girdle round the loins, with a small flap before

* *Europeans* are allowed to enter the mosques of *Joanna*, on condition of taking off their shoes.

that one would almost be led to believe
epidemic there. The females of every cl
said to be of an amorous constitution, and
addicted to intrigue; and some of the
orders are so abandoned and shameless,
would be doing injustice to the prostitute
with in the streets of London, to say they ar
them.

In Madeira, the natives are of a tawny c
and well shaped; though many of them have
large feet, owing to the efforts they mak
climbing the craggy parts of their mountai
country. They have oblong faces, promi
cheek bones, and a dark brunette complexi
but the just proportion of the body, the fine
of their hands, and their animated black e
seem to compensate, in some measure, for th
defects. Their black hair naturally falls in ringle
and begins to crisp in some individuals; whi
may probably have resulted from their inte
marriages with negroes.

With respect to their dress, the labouring me
in summer, wear linen trowsers, a coarse shi
a large hat, and boots; to which some add a jack
made of cloth, and a long cloak. The wo
men wear a petticoat, and a short jacket, closel
fitted to their shapes, which is not inelegant: the
have also a short wide cloak; and those that ar
unmarried tie their hair on the crown of the hea
on which they wear no other covering.

The country people are very sober and frugal
their diet consisting of bread and onions, or othe
roots, and a little animal food: their common b
verage is water, or an infusion of the skin of th
grape (after it has passed through the wine-pres
which, when fermented, acquires some degr

...they naturally in
vineyards are held only o
the farmer reaps but four
as four other tenths must
owner of the land, one ten
to the clergy. Such sma
thought of toiling merely
others, discourage improv
standing their oppressions,
a high degree of cheerful
and in the evening they fre
different cottages to am
dancing.

Their supply of water is v
article is indispensably nece
it is not without great expe
yard can be planted; for the
the owners must purchase
rate from those who are con
it. Wherever a level piece
trived in the higher hills, th-

nths provisions; so that the inhabitants are iged to have recourse to other food, besides im- ting considerable quantities of corn from North erica, in exchange for wine. The want of nure and the inactivity of the people are, in ne measure, the causes of this disadvantage; but ugh husbandry were carried to perfection here, would be impossible to raise corn sufficient for ir consumption.

The farmers in this island make their threshing ors of a circular form, in a corner of a field ich is cleared and beaten solid for the purpose. e sheaves are laid round about it; and a square ard stuck full of sharp flints below, is dragged r them by a pair of oxen, the driver getting on o increase its weight: this machine cuts the aw as if it had been chopped, and frees the grain m the husk, from which it is afterward separated. re are no wheel-carriages of any description; in the towns they use a sort of drays, or sledges, med of two pieces of plank joined by transverse ces, which make an acute angle in front: these drawn by oxen, and are used to transport casks wine, and other heavy goods, to and from warehouses.

The governor is at the head of all the civil and itary departments of Madeira, as well as of the vages, and the Desert Isles, which contain only temporary huts of some poor fishermen. The department is under the corregidor, who is nmonly sent from Lisbon, and holds his place ing the king's pleasure. All causes come to from inferior courts by appeal. Each judi- ure has a senate; and a judge whom they ose *presides* over them: at Funchal he is called *de Fora*; and in the absence or after

produce of the island be
virtue of his office, as gr
of Christ; secondly, fro
laid on all imports excep
from the eleven per cent.
The greatest part of the
expended in the salaries
officers, the pay of troops, a
public buildings.

Madeira has but one com
of a hundred men: the re
is a militia consisting of three
into companies, each com
who has one lieutenant unde
No pay is given to either th
officers of this militia; and
much sought after, on accou
they communicate; these
once a year, and exercised o

The number of secular p
hundred

their head, whose income is considerably greate
than the governor's. Here are likewise sixty o
seventy Franciscan friars in four monasteries, on
of which is at Funchal; and about three hundre
nuns live in four convents, of the orders of Merci
Clara, Incarnacao, and Bon Jesus. Those of th
last mentioned institution are at liberty to leav
their monastery, and form a matrimonial connexio
whenever they think proper.

The inhabitants of Bissao* wear only a ski
fixed to the girdle, before and behind. The dres
of the married women consists of a cotton petticoa
but virgins have scarcely any covering or orna
ments, except some bracelets on their arms an
legs. If they are of high quality, their bodies ar
painted with various hideous forms of snakes, &c
which, as their colour is jet black, gives their skin
somewhat the appearance of flowered satin
Even the princess royal, the eldest daughter of th
emperor, is only distinguished from other wome

* The Island of Bissao, (which was accidentall
omitted in our description of the other African Islands
is situated a few leagues to the south east of the Gambi
and separated from the African continent only by th
channel of the river Geves. It is about forty miles i
circumference, having an agreeable prospect to the se
from which it rises by a gentle ascent on every side t
an eminence in the centre of the island. There ar
however, several hills inferior in height to that in th
middle, and separated by beautiful valleys, divided b
little rivulets, which augment the general richness an
elegance of the scene. The soil is so extremely ric
that wheat and maise spring up to the size of India
corn; the cattle also are of an extraordinary size, an
seem to keep pace with the extravagant growth of th
above mentioned grain. In this island the French hav
a factory, and here is also a fort belonging to t
Portuguese.

language is used only among th

All the Bissaons are idolat
that their intercourse wit
introduced the smallest char
but their ideas of religion are
Their chief idol is a little i
of which the worshippers give
but besides this, every ma
himself: even trees are hel
adored as gods, are worship
residence of some divinity.

The government is desp
emperor being a law to his
have an instance in Bissao,
any other country whatever.
make a present of the hou
neighbour to the emperor;
are generally accepted, the
resist, but immediately sets a
house; though even this he
the prince's leave: and if

extremely revengeful. It is their custom to about in the night time, in quest of intrigues, seldom fail of finding women for their ose.

ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

WITH respect to arts and trades," says nt Benyowsky, "the Madagascar nation are ented with such as are necessary to make their eables, tools, utensils, and arms for defence; onstruct their dwellings, and the boats which ecessary for their navigation; and, lastly, to cate cloths and stuffs for their clothing: so they are desirous only of possessing the ne- ary supplies of immediate utility and con- ence.

he principal and most respected business in agascar is the manufacture of iron and steel. artists in this way call themselves *ompanefa*; and are extremely expert in fusing the ore, forging utensils, such as hatchets, hammers, ls, knives, spades, razors, pincers, tweezers, The second class consists of the *ompanefa mena*, or goldsmiths; who cast gold in ingots, make up bracelets, ear-rings, buckles, drops, , &c. The third are called *ompavillanga*, are potters. The fourth are the *ompanevatta*, rners in wood, who make boxes, plates, den and horn spoons, bee-hives, and coffins. fifth, called *ompan cacason*, or carpenters, ery expert in their business, and use the rule, , compasses, &c. The sixth are the ompa- or rope-makers, who make their ropes of

manufactures car
very few, and the produc
sufficient for the consum
They consist of taffetas, ga
kets, a little silk, and cur
cipal dependance of the tr
oil, corn, and every kind of

Madeira derives its pri
wines, of which there ar
The best is called Madeir
which cannot be purchase
than forty or forty-two pou
ceedingly rich and sweet, a
small quantity. The next i
exported to London at thirt
sterling the pipe. Inferior
West Indies, and North Am
eight, twenty-five, and tw
About thirty thousand pipe
are made annually, containin
gallons each. About

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